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Fighting reerupts near Bikfaya

BEIRUT (AP) — Heavy fighting erupted in Lebanon's central mountains on Sunday between troops loyal to President Amin Gemayel and Syrian-backed militias seeking to oust him, police reported. Initial reports said one soldier was killed and four civilians wounded in the artillery and tank clashes around the key crossroads outside the mostly Christian village of Dawaar, police said. Mr. Gemayel's hometown of Bikfaya, three kilometres east of Dawaar, was shelled along with surrounding villages. Mr. Gemayel's heavily guarded summer palace in the hilltop town was damaged by shellfire two days ago. The 44-year-old Maronite Catholic president and his family have not stayed in Bikfaya for weeks because of the almost daily clashes in the Metn mountains.

Fabius blasts U.S. over Duvalier

PARIS (R) — French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius branded as "not correct" on Sunday a U.S. refusal to take ousted Haitian dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier off France's hands. Giving the clearest signal yet of Paris' irritation with Washington over the handling of the ousting of Mr. Duvalier from Haiti, Mr. Fabius said in a television interview: "They did not want to take him back which was not correct on their part." The toppled leader flew to France aboard a U.S. air force plane on Feb. 7 for what the government said at the time would be a transit stop of eight days until a permanent home could be found for him in another country. But a series of other countries refused to take Mr. Duvalier and he, his wife and two children are still in a luxury hotel in the French Alps.

King, Mubarak exchange views

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein contacted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak by phone on Sunday and exchanged with him views on current situation in the Arab region as well as on issues of common interest.

Iraq completes first phase of nuclear station study

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's Atomic Power Commission has completed with Soviet help the first phase of a study to find a suitable site for a nuclear power station, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Saturday. It said several sites had been picked out and the next stage would be to choose a final location for the 440 megawatt pressurised-water plant. Iraq signed an agreement in 1984 with the Soviet Atomenergoexport organisation for help in planning a nuclear power plant.

GCC begins talks on anti-drug action

DOHA (R) — Officials fighting drug abuse in the six-member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) began talks here on Sunday on ways to check an alarming spread of narcotics in the region. The head of Qatar's delegation, Abdullah Suleitin, told Reuters the two-day meeting would discuss a study of the drug problem prepared by the Riyadh-based GCC secretariat and a separate working paper from Qatar. "We are trying to nip the problem in the bud because drugs are like a fire which starts in a house and ends up engulfing a whole town," he said.

Soviet satellite may crash to earth

HAMBURG (AP) — A Soviet satellite, possibly powered by an atomic reactor, is out of control and could crash to earth in late March, a West German newspaper reported Sunday. The mass-circulation daily Bild, quoting two West German space experts, said Cosmos 1714 was reeling towards a fiery reentry in the atmosphere and that parts of it could plunge to earth between March 21 and 25. The newspaper quoted Horst Hewel, a West Berlin radar engineer and astronomer, as estimating March 23 as a probable date of a Cosmos crash.

Israeli settlers to set up pistol factory in W.Bank

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israeli government on Sunday licensed a Jewish settlers' factory in the occupied West Bank to produce pistols, a senior official said. The official identified the factory as "Sirkis," in Kiryat Arba, a settlement of 4,000 Israelis next to the city of Hebron. Israelis require police permits to carry handguns, but settlers in the occupied territories receive licences more easily than other Israeli applicants.

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King: Palestinians should decide future course of peace efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has said that it was up to the Palestinian people to decide what course efforts should take towards a just settlement to the Palestinian problem and Jordan would respect the decision.

In an interview published in Sunday's edition of the New York Times, the King said Jordan would respect a decision by the Palestinians that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was their "sole legitimate representative" but added that Jordan would also not prevent the Palestinians if they wanted another body to represent them.

"The Palestinians must now make a decision," the King told the New York Times. "Are they happy with creeping annexation of their land by Israel and their possible expulsion from Palestine? If they're unhappy, what do they want us to do about it?"

In the interview, which follows Jordan's decision last week to terminate coordinate political moves with the PLO leadership after the failure of a one-year joint effort towards settling the Palestinian problem, the King said the Palestinians "should define what they want... they can create an apparatus to express themselves... if it is the PLO, we will respect this."

Asked whether he was demanding that the Palestinian people should make a decision on who should lead them, the King said: "I am simply saying that the Palestinians must begin their own dialogue. They must say whether we are right or wrong or come up with something else."

The King said he did not share the view of some Middle East analysts that the Jordan-PLO breakdown signalled the collapse of all hopes for reviving the peace process. "This is the end of a chapter and not of the book," he said.

The King reaffirmed Jordan's stand that the Kingdom would not enter direct negotiations with Israel or act as the spokesman for the Palestinian people.

He said he was not calling upon the Arabs to reconsider their designation of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people as endorsed in the 1974 Rabat Arab summit resolution. "This is for the Palestinians to decide," he said.

The King said the United States had come a long way towards meeting a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation despite persisting differences of policy between them. He did not elaborate on the differences.

The King, however, expressed disappointment that U.S. President Ronald Reagan had decided to shelve a proposal to sell advanced American weapons to Jordan. The King said the shelving of the proposal raised questions in Jordan whether the U.S. administration was willing and able to fulfil commitments it had made vis-a-vis the Middle East peace process.

The collapse of the latest round of peace efforts meant that a "period of reflection" was in order, he said. "This is a time for reflections that move away from official circles and to the people, especially, the Palestinians," the King said.

The King described the recent Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement as a bilateral development that would continue. Syrian President Hafez Al Assad is expected to pay a visit to Jordan soon, he said. The date for the visit will be set in the near future, he added.



Petra photo

His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday greets citizens who assembled at the Royal Palace gounds to voice support for the King's leadership and policies (See story on page 3)

King hopes for crystallisation of firm Jordanian-Palestinian stand

Senate endorses termination of moves

By Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein expressed hope on Sunday that his nation-wide speech last week will pave the way for further future constructive efforts and dialogues between the Jordanians and Palestinians to achieve a firm and joint stand capable of confronting the grave challenges facing both peoples.

Addressing members of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) at the Royal Court, the King also said that it was his national duty to inform his people on the latest developments in joint political efforts of Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as well as Jordan's efforts to solve the Palestinian problem.

"I hope that the presentation of my position on Jordan's course of action on the Palestine cause will evolve into a crystallised and joint stand between both peoples," he said.

King Hussein was replying to a statement of total support by the Upper House for his decision to terminate political coordination with the leadership of the PLO.

"This is our fate and destiny," the King told the senators and expressed hope that the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples would be able to formulate a joint stand in order to liberate the Palestinian people from Israeli oppression.

The King also thanked the senators for their statement of support and called on them to inform him on their views, which he said, "could help me in defining the outline of Jordan's course and eventually help in serving our cause."

The Senate statement of support was read out to the King by Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi. It expressed total support for the King's historic speech on Wednesday reviewing Jordan's two attempts to work jointly with the PLO to find a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian problem.

In the statement, the Senate reiterated commitment to the constitutional unity between the West and East Banks of Jordan (See full text of speech on page 3).

Thirteen senators spoke during the Senate's urgent session on Sunday which preceded the adoption of the statement. They described the King's speech as a "historical epic, which comprehensively, explicitly and candidly" outlined Jordan's efforts to settle the Palestine problem.

The speakers, six of them of Palestinian origin, reiterated commitment to the constitutional unity between the East and West Banks of Jordan, as endorsed by the Jordanian Parliament on April 24, 1950.

Senator Bahjat Al Talhouni, who on several occasions held the post of prime minister, spoke at the outset of the session. "The unity of both banks was endorsed by the legislative authority, Parliament. The same decision could only be cancelled if the same power wishes to do so."

Thoukan Al Hindawi, a former minister of education, said: "The unity of Jordan's East and West Banks is both constitutional and factual. It is constitutional because its essence was endorsed by Parliament, and is factual because it is an extension of national, humanitarian, natural, geographical, historical and most important of all, a unity of blood, mutual benefit and destiny."

The only senator to call on Jordan and the PLO to continue their political coordination on joint action towards achieving a just settlement to the Palestine problem was Deputy Speaker Hikmat Al Masri.

"I am sure that both King Hussein and (PLO) Chairman (Yasser) Arafat will not allow the ship of their political coordination as based on the Feb. 11 accord to sink and to drown all passengers aboard it," Senator Masri said.

"From my daily observation of both leaders' consultations and

(Continued on page 5)

Iraq says major junction recaptured in central Fao

Combined agency dispatches

IRAQ SAID on Sunday its forces recaptured from Iranians an important communications junction in the central sector of the Fao Peninsula after heavy fighting that left Iranian corpses "filling the battleground."

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the Iranians struck fruitlessly at the advancing Iraqi southern and central columns, but the central column launched a new attack and seized the junction after heavy fighting.

The southern column was also engaged in fierce fighting on Sunday and one of its commanders told INA they had also regained some territory.

The third, northern column in Iraq's three-pronged counter-attack had been shelling Iranian positions in support of the other two, INA said.

INA and Baghdad dailies spoke of "a few days or hours to decide the fate of the Iranian troops that crossed the Shatt Al Arab waterway" on Feb. 9 to launch their "Dawn 8" offensive.

Iraqi air force jets and helicopter gunships continued destructive raids on Iranian positions, flying 400 sorties from first light to noon GMT, a military spokesman said.

Iraqi anti-aircraft gunners with the central column shot down an Iranian F-4 Phantom jet, he added.

INA quoted a field commander as saying "the Iraqi flag will be hoisted in the centre of Fao soon.

"The casualty rate on the Iranian side is one division a day," he said, adding that 19 Iranian divisional, brigade and Revolutionary Guards commanders had been killed. An Iranian division is normally some 10,000 men.

War correspondents from the daily newspaper Al Thawra said fighting on Saturday was "very fierce when Iraqi troops stormed Iranian defences and fought with light weapons from one trench to another."

There are conflicting claims on how many casualties each side has suffered in the past two weeks. Iran claims it has killed more that 16,000 Iraqi soldiers in the Fao fighting, while Iraq says the Iranians have lost more than 30,000 men. Neither figure could be independently verified.

In an effort to mediate an end to the fighting, Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, held talks with Iraqi officials in Baghdad and Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Al Ibrahimi announced in Kuwait that his country would try "to attain the best possible means of terminating this destructive conflict."

Mr. Ibrahimi, whose country has good relations with both Iran and Iraq, made the statement after delivering a message from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid to Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Algeria has made several unsuccessful attempts at mediation in the past and was sharply critical of both sides when fierce fighting erupted again recently.

"The efforts (to negotiate peace) are not finished. But to ensure they are fruitful, it is necessary not to talk about it all the time," Mr. Ibrahimi told newsmen in Kuwait.

He said that during his trip he would discuss "issues of concern to Arab and Islamic countries from East to West," and bilateral relations.

No details were available on Prince Saud's talks in Baghdad. He flew into the Iraqi capital late Saturday after talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Damascus.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have been trying since Feb. 9 to persuade Syria, Iran's ally, to use its good offices with Tehran to accept a peaceful mediation of the Gulf conflict.

Prince Saud declared before his departure from Damascus that he was "happy and optimistic" after his talks with Mr. Assad. He did not elaborate.

Mr. Assad also received a message Saturday from Iranian President Ali Khamenei, carried by Iranian Acting Foreign Minister Mohammad Ali Basharati.

Mr. Basharati said on Sunday that Tehran would not seek to expand the Gulf war beyond Iraq.

(Continued on page 3)

Fao targetted as main battleground, page 2

Abu Ayyash reelected Engineers Association president

By Salameh B. Ne'matt Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Ibrahim Abu Ayyash was reelected Sunday for another term as president of the Jordanian Engineers Association after a close two-day election race in which he narrowly beat Dr. Usama Anani, his closest competitor.

Michel Masannat was also reelected as vice-president.

Mr. Abu Ayyash received 1,580 votes against 1,552 for Dr. Anani. Mr. Masannat got 1,421 votes against 1,413 for his competitor Mohammad Bdeir.

Mr. Abu Ayyash and Mr. Masannat were running within the Professional List bloc against Dr. Anani and Mr. Bdeir in the Independent Professional Action list.

The Professional List also won four seats on the association's council against three won by the Independent Professional Action List. The third competing bloc, the Professional Unity List led by Mohammad Abu Jbara did not win any seat. Mr. Jbara, who was running for president, received only 399 votes.

The results of the elections, in which 6,820 engineers voted, were announced early Sunday morning.

Less than one hour before the vote count ended, Dr. Anani had the lead with nine votes with only 50 papers to be vetted. Mr. Abu Ayyash returned to gain the lead by 28 votes at the end of the count.

Daoud Khalaf won a seat for civil engineers in the association with 1764 votes. Abdul Rahman Bitar won the second seat for civil engineers with 1488 votes. Jamal Shakhsheer won the seat for architectural engineers with 1505 votes. Ahmad Kellani gained 1,469 votes to win a seat for mechanical engineers. The electrical engineers' seat was won by Khaled Samara with 1380 votes. Fathi Hiassat received 1811 votes to win a seat for chemical engineers while Abdul-Ilah Roussan received 1,233 votes to win a seat for mining engineers. The nine seats were divided 6-3 between the Professional List and the Independent Professional List in favour of the former.

In an interview last week, Mr. Abu Ayyash told the Jordan Times that if elected he will be working on "a new organisational policy" which would allow engineers in different governorates to elect their own councils due to the disproportionate increase in the number of engineers in the Kingdom. He said he intended to "decentralise the association" and continue to work towards trying to ameliorate the problem of unemployment facing engineers. According to estimates, Jordan will have no less than 4,000 jobless engineers by the end of this year if current trends continue.

Katyushas land in Galilee after Israel ends fruitless search

Combined agency dispatches

SEVERAL KATYUSHA rockets landed in Israel's northern settlements on Sunday, one day after the Israeli army said it has pulled its forces out of villages in South Lebanon following a fruitless six-day search for two captive soldiers.

In Tel Aviv, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin conceded that Israel failed to obtain clear information on the whereabouts of its two captured soldiers in the search.

Commandos greeted the end of the Israeli search by firing a barrage of Katyusha rockets into northern Israeli settlements and Israel's self-declared "security zone" on the Lebanese side of the border. There were no reports of casualties.

Sources, who declined to be named, told AP the Israel-allied South Lebanon Army (SLA) fired automatic weapons toward the site from which the rockets were launched.

Earlier reports on Israel Radio said the Israeli army and the SLA militia had shelled the town of Tyre.

The Soviet-designed Katyusha rockets landed in fields in the western Galilee region. Nine such rockets landed near the northern border on Friday night too.

The rockets appear to have been fired from outside Israel's "security zone" which runs 10 to 16 kilometres along the Israeli border in South Lebanon, said the sources quoted by AP.

The attacks came less than 12 hours after Israel withdrew most of its search forces from South Lebanon.

Israeli officers said a small contingent of the search force would remain behind for several days in case fresh intelligence information indicated the soldiers were still in the area. They declined to say how many soldiers were left behind.

"We have no definitive information where the kidnapped soldiers are," Rabin told Israel radio.

He said he ordered a withdrawal from areas north of the zone after the search became counter-productive but Israel would continue "through various means" to try to trace the missing men.

"A contradiction was created between the general aim of ensuring security for the north and the moral necessity for the Israeli army to search for its soldiers," he said.

Rabin said resistance attacks in South Lebanon might increase as a result of the sweep in which 14 suspected commandos were killed.

As Israeli tanks, troop carriers and helicopters withdrew, Lebanese villagers showed reporters marks of harsh beatings and burns they said pro-Israeli militiamen inflicted as Israelis watched (See page 2).

One 18-year-old patient said he was beaten in a bid to find out where the captive Israelis had been hidden.

"They shouted 'you work for (the pro-Iranian) Hizbollah, where are the Israelis?'," he said. "I told them 'I'm not in Hizbollah and I don't know where they are'."

Hizbollah (Party of God) leads a coalition of guerrillas known as the Islamic Resistance Front. The front said it captured the two soldiers and an unidentified caller told Beirut media one of the Israelis had been "executed."

There has been no independent evidence that either of the Israeli prisoners had been killed in retaliation for the Israeli drive in the south.

The spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force In Lebanon (UNIFIL), Timor Goksel, said three battalions of mechanised infantry totalling 1,500 troops had searched an area about 16 kilometres by 12 kilometres.

Philippines standoff worsens as Enrile rejects Marcos offer

Combined agency dispatches

THE PHILIPPINES crisis appeared to be heading for a worse turn on Sunday after one of two military officials demanding that President Ferdinand Marcos quit office said he had rebuffed an offer by the president to grant an amnesty and thousands of anti-Marcos Filipinos set up a protective cordon around the national police compound where the rebels have set up base.

Former Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile told reporters that Mr. Marcos had "suggested" the offer not to prosecute an alleged group of assassination plotters in a telephone conversation, their first since Mr. Enrile and Lieutenant-General Fidel V. Ramos began calling for Mr. Marcos' resignation about 30 hours earlier.

Opposition leaders, meanwhile, disclosed a proposal for a five-member committee, including two generals from each side, to find ways to end the standoff without bloodshed.

Hundreds of pro-government troops and eight armoured vehicles withdrew from positions they had taken up earlier at an intersection less than two kilometres from Camp Crame, the national police compound where the rebels remained holed up. An estimated 25,000 civilians had flocked to the scene and buses were commandeered to form a barricade against the armour-backed Philippine marines (See page 8).

Thousands of spectators cheered wildly as they watched the pullback after a warning by opposition leader Ernesto Maceda to pro-government commanders against any action that could endanger talks in progress "at the highest level."

The rebels turned down appeals by Mr. Marcos to surrender and instead concentrated their forces to fight off any attack.

Gen. Ramos, the Philippine deputy chief of staff, told reporters: "We have no intention to surrender because the people are behind us."

The rebels headed by Gen. Ramos and Mr. Enrile are calling on Mr. Marcos to step down in favour of Corazon Aquino who charges that she was cheated of election victory this month by fraud.

Marcos vows to crush rebellion

WASHINGTON (R) — Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos said Sunday on U.S. television he would not resign and vowed to crush a rebellion by two of his top military aides. "I am not about to resign," he told NBC Television's "Meet the Press" programme. "Of course not, of course not," he said when asked if he would resign to preserve the peace. Mr. Marcos said he hoped to end the rebellion of Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and deputy army chief Fidel Ramos without bloodshed. But he said he would use the army to "quietly push aside" thousands of civilians surrounding the building where the two men have closeted themselves and then attack if that proved impossible. "The moment we hit them, they will be wiped out," he said.

Both Mr. Marcos and the rebels claim the backing of most of the armed forces.

Mr. Marcos, guarded behind barbed wire at his Malacanang Palace by tanks and marines, went on television for the second time in 15 hours to urge the rebels to give up peacefully. "If we wanted to, we can end this in one hour," he said.

Mr. Enrile told thousands of cheering supporters outside the camps: "Let us be united. Let us help each other at this special moment in our history."

Mr. Enrile said Marcos troops would not attack the rebels because "they will suffer heavy casualties and will have to wade through masses of people."

He added: "No amount of firepower can cow an angry people. They may kill some but not all."

As the rebels' helicopters whirred protectively overhead, Mr. Enrile led heavily armed soldiers from Camp Aguinaldo, site of the Defence Ministry, across the street to Camp Crame which houses

(Continued on page 3)

Americans adviced not to travel to Philippines, page 8

ALWAHA STORES

OPENING SOON AT THE HOUSING BANK COMPLEX

SLA militiamen torture Lebanese villagers as Israeli troops look on

TIBNINE, Lebanon (R) — Lebanese villagers have showed reporters marks of harsh beatings and burns they said pro-Israeli gunmen inflicted as Israeli troops looked on.

Seven Shi'ite Muslims in hospital in the southern village of Tibnine Saturday displayed raw, swollen weals they said were caused by blows from chair legs and boots as they were interrogated.

The men, who reached this tense, dusty hilltop village on Friday, were among scores of people seized by the Israelis in a massive six-day search for two Israeli soldiers captured by radical Muslim fighters.

Israel called off the operation Saturday, withdrawing some 1,500 troops from a swathe of South Lebanese villages paralysed by gunfire and mostly deserted by their inhabitants.

In Tibnine, one of 19 villages raided, a 20-year-old hospital patient showed a burn on his penis which he said a militiaman of the pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army (SLA) inflicted with a cigarette lighter.

Another man with three coin-sized marks on his back said they were caused by a cigarette. Asked who had beaten him, a 22-year-old said: "The Israelis were there, but they did not do it."

In Tel Aviv, an Israeli army spokesman said he had no information on alleged SLA torture in Tibnine or on allegations that Israeli soldiers had watched as SLA militiamen beat and burned Lebanese villagers.

Six of the men said Israelis had been present at their interrogations. The seventh said he was blindfolded.

"These men have certainly been tortured," said Ismail Mustafa, the hospital doctor treating them.

The men, aged between 18 and 33, gave their names but asked not to be identified for fear of reprisals. Most said the beatings had lasted between 15 and 30 minutes and had taken place at Shaqra village on Friday.

"They broke up chairs on our backs," said an 18-year-old, displaying seven large red weals.

As he spoke, three cars of SLA gunmen passed by, sending a flicker of alarm through a knot of relatives outside the hospital. Tibnine is on the edge of an Israeli-declared "security zone" patrolled by the SLA.

Minutes later an Israeli helicopter gunship made passes over the hospital, which had been used by the Israelis as an assembly point for arrested villagers earlier in the week.

United Nations peacekeeping troops in South Lebanon said they had protested to Israel about the use of the hospital as a prison.

An 18-year-old patient with a blotchy face and back said Israelis beat him as he lay handcuffed. Other interrogators stamped on his head in questioning the day before, he said.

"They shouted 'you work for (the pro-Iranian group) Hezbollah, where are the two Israelis?'," he said. "I told them 'I'm not in Hezbollah and I don't know where they are'."

A 20-year-old man showed weals on his left forearm and displayed a finger on his left hand he said had been broken when he was hit with a chair leg.

He said a swelling on his right ear was the result of a blow from a makeshift wooden club.

Most were questioned in the village of Shaqra, where Israelis rounded up hundreds of men, women and children on Friday in a search for the missing Israelis.

The wounded men said interrogators, who included Lebanese gunmen working directly for Israel's "Shin Beth" security police, had asked few questions about the missing Israelis.

Instead, they demanded information on Shi'ite militias and the location of arms caches, the wounded men said.

As dusk fell on Tibnine Saturday night, dozens of villagers emerged cautiously after hearing Israel's manhunt was over.

Minutes later, dozens more poured into the streets shouting "welcome sons, welcome," as a convoy of 44 Shi'ites freed by Israel arrived under Lebanese police escort.

But nerves were still on edge. U.N. peacekeeping troops took up battle positions as a carload of journalists pulled up sharply at a U.N. checkpoint in the village.

As reporters left the area, one of their cars came under sniper fire from an SLA position. There were no injuries.

Local sources in the South meanwhile reported that commandos who captured the two Israelis last Monday narrowly missed killing a senior Israeli officer in the operation.

They said a roadside bomb exploded near the car of Dany Rotschild, the Israeli army's senior liaison officer with the SLA, as he drove to the scene of the attack seven kilometres from the border. He was not hurt.

Greek premier arrives in Cairo today

ATHENS (AP) — Ending a period of decidedly cool relations between Greece and Egypt, Premier Andreas Papandreou flies to Cairo Monday for a three-day official visit.

In meetings with President Hosni Mubarak and Premier Ali Lutfi, Mr. Papandreou is expected to discuss the Middle East, the Iran-Iraq war and security in the Mediterranean.

The visit comes at a time when the Socialist government has toned down its anti-Western rhetoric and also is showing willingness to improve relations with Israel.

But Greek support for Libya and other radical Arab states is likely to remain a barrier to substantive improvement in ties with Egypt, diplomats here said.

Egyptian objections to Greece's plans to sell arms to Libya were forcefully expressed during a visit by Mr. Mubarak to Greece in January 1985.

Greece reaffirmed its friendship with Libya after last December's Rome and Vienna Airport attacks and said negotiations on selling a locally manufactured anti-aircraft system were still pending.

"Getting this visit off the ground is a real achievement. Greece and Egypt don't really see eye-to-eye on many issues," said a Western diplomat speaking on condition of anonymity.

Mr. Papandreou originally was due to visit Cairo last April.

The Greek premier will sign an economic and technical agreement during the visit and, if negotiations are completed on time, a Greek-Egyptian extradition agreement.

He will have talks with Egyptian Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Gazala including possible broadening of an existing agreement under which Egyptian Air Force planes are repaired and serviced at a Greek aerospace plant outside Athens.

Egyptian officials are keen to develop cooperation in tourism. Both countries have been hit by thousands of cancellations following a string of attacks in the eastern Mediterranean last year.

But diplomatic sources said recriminations over last November's hijacking of a Egyptair jetliner on an Athens-Cairo flight are "unlikely." Twelve Greeks were among the 60 people who died when Egyptian commandos stormed the plane on the ground at Malta.

Greek officials later complained that Egyptian authorities were slow to provide assistance in investigating the hijack.

Earlier last year, Egypt angrily rejected Greek assertions that weapons used in hijacking a TWA jetliner on an Athens-Rome flight were hidden on board the plane during an earlier stop in Cairo.

Mr. Papandreou also will visit the Greek Orthodox Monastery of St. Catherine in the Sinai Desert, where Orthodox monks have guarded a priceless collection of ancient manuscripts and religious treasures since the early days of Christianity.

Qadhafi: U.S. seeks to control Africa

ATHENS (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said in an interview published Sunday that the United States was cooperating with France in Chad to secure a foothold in Africa and control the continent.

"Chad is in the centre of Africa and America has interests that it promotes in cooperation with France," Col. Qadhafi told the Greek newspaper Eleftherotypia Sunday.

He said the aim of the United States was "the takeover of that country and the installation of an American base that would allow it to control the whole of the African continent."

Libya has denied involvement in the recent flare-up in Chad between government troops and Libyan-backed rebels and accuses France of intervening in the neighbouring African country to serve U.S. interests.

Tripoli-based diplomats say Libya could have as many as 5,000 troops in northern Chad in support of rebel troops loyal to former Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei.

Col. Qadhafi said the conflict in Chad was an internal matter and Libya's position was that there should be no foreign intervention. He said the 20-year-old civil war in Chad could continue for a further 25 years.

Col. Qadhafi said French President Francois Mitterrand had violated an agreement the two leaders made in Crete in 1984 for a mutual withdrawal of their forces but Libya was still determined not to intervene in Chad.

France sent Jaguar strike aircraft and troops to Chad following an unsuccessful raid by the rebels south of the 16th parallel or "red line" drawn by Paris and the bombing of N'Djamena airport by what Paris said was a Libyan bomber.

Meanwhile the Chadian government said Saturday it had captured about 1,000 prisoners in last week's fighting with Libyan-backed rebels.

Ten prisoners shown to the press in the capital Saturday were all Chadians and said they had been forced to fight on the rebel side.

"Those who refused to fight were shot by the Libyans," one of them told reporters.

The government described last week's flare-up in the 20-year-long civil war as a Libyan attack and on Friday, two Libyan prisoners were shown to the press in N'Djamena.

But prisoners interviewed Saturday said most of the fighting was actually done by Chadians. "The Libyans ordered us to march in front," one said. "They stayed in the rear and when the fighting started they ran away."

The figure of 1,000 captured was given by Information Minister Mahamat Soumalia, who said they were being held in camps near the battle area in the centre of the Chadian desert.

One of the prisoners, who said he was a former Chadian civil servant conscripted into Libya's "Islamic Legion," said there were between 3,000 and 4,000 Libyans in northern Chad.

Only the roar of French jet fighters on training flights disturbed the calm of N'Djamena Saturday and the recent battles have boosted official confidence in the fighting abilities of government forces.

Urquhart regrets missed chances for Mideast peace

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Brian Urquhart, just retired as chief Middle East troubleshooter for the United Nations, says the Palestinians and their Arab supporters missed "a great opportunity by rejecting the Camp David framework for peace."

"The history of the Middle East is the history of missed buses," Mr. Urquhart said in an interview.

The British diplomat conceded that he himself had undergone a change of heart of the 1978 U.S.-brokered peace accord between Israel and Egypt, particularly with regard to envisioned talks leading to autonomy for the Palestinian inhabitants of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"In retrospect, it seems a pity that the Palestinians and the Arabs weren't prepared to try out the autonomy talks, which are beginning to look as if that would have been a great deal better than anything they're likely to get now," Mr. Urquhart said, speaking soon after the collapse of a joint peace approach by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Initially, Mr. Urquhart said of the proposed autonomy talks, "I didn't think it was the right way to go." But, on hindsight, he views it as a "great missed opportunity."

The autonomy talks never got off the ground, largely because of misgivings by Israel and resistance by Jordan and the PLO. As proposed by President Jimmy Carter, Jordan would have been invited to join the negotiations.

By mutual consent, Palestinians could have participated as members of the Jordanian or Egyptian delegations.

Because of strong Arab opposition to the Camp David process and the resulting "separate" peace, the U.N. secretariat of which Mr. Urquhart was a member for 40 years never came out in its support.

Mr. Urquhart now says that "any move to reach a peace treaty between the protagonists, inevitably from the human point of view, must be a step foward."

It's getting awfully late," Mr. Urquhart said of peace prospects. "You've got fait accompli being created all over the area all the time."

Given the complexity of the problem and the deep animosities the conflict has engendered, Mr. Urquhart said, he is not sure whether "a tidy or completely just or attainable solution to the problem" can be reached.

Progress may not be possible, he said, "unless it's in the context of an enormously imaginative and important international framework" that has the support of the adversaries in the region and of the two superpowers.

One of the main stumbling blocks to Israeli and U.S. support for an international conference under U.N. auspices has been the proposed inclusion of the PLO, which is rejected by Israel.

"The difficulty seems to be, if not (PLO leader Yasser) Arafat, then who?" Mr. Urquhart said. "Arafat has the reputation of being the leader of the PLO, which no one else has."

Since retiring earlier this month as U.S. undersecretary-general for special political affairs, Mr. Urquhart, 66, has joined the Ford Foundation.

Soviet experts to return to S.Yemen within days

ADEN (R) — Soviet experts and advisers, who fled South Yemen because of inter-factional fighting last month, will return this week to resume work on joint economic projects, the Soviet ambassador to Aden said Sunday.

Vladislav Zhukov made the statement after talks on the issue with South Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Minerals and Energy Saleh Abu Baker Ibn Hussainoun.

The new Yemeni government, which took over after the ousting of President Ali Nasser Mohammad, has urged the Soviets and other nationals to come back to help rebuild the economy, badly dented by the fighting.

Moscow, Aden's main financial and political backer since it gained independence from Britain in 1967, withdrew nearly 4,000 nationals among 6,000 foreigners evacuated during January's troubles.

South Yemen is bound to the Soviet Union by an economic and friendship treaty and provides the Soviets with important military facilities.

Palestinian attacks harm U.S. tourism to Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Palestinian commando attacks in the Middle East and Europe have harmed American tourism to Israel, the chairman of the Israeli Hotel Association said Sunday.

"The situation is simply no good," Eli Papashado said. "It's as if U.S. tourism has been cut off because Americans are extremely sensitive to attacks."

He said in a radio interview that tourism from Europe was largely unaffected.

According to the Israeli Tourism Ministry, a record 1,436,000 tourists visited Israel last year but the number dropped in the last months of 1985 because of Palestinian commando attacks in the Middle East and Europe.

The biggest number of tourists came from the United States (426,000), followed by Britain (162,000), West Germany (159,000) and France (151,000).

Israeli kills parents, sisters

TEL AVIV (R) — A 14-year-old Israeli has been arrested on suspicion of killing his sleeping parents and two teenage sisters with a submachine-gun his father brought home from reserve army duty, police said Sunday.

They told a Jerusalem magistrate that the youth shot his parents in their bedroom on Friday then killed his sisters, aged 18 and 19, who also were asleep.

There were no signs of a break-in at the house and the gun was left on a kitchen table, they said.

The magistrate ordered the youth to be held in custody for 10 days and said he must undergo psychological examination.

Fao targetted as main Gulf war battleground

BAGHDAD (R) — Once a sleepy town of date palms until transformed into Iraq's main oil port, Fao is now targeted as the main battleground in the latest Gulf war flare-up.

An Iranian invasion force slipped across the Shatt Al Arab waterway dividing the two protagonists and captured Fao in the early stages of their "Dawn eight" campaign launched on February 9. It gave them a foothold on the southern coast of Iraq for the first time in the war, now in its sixth year.

The Iraqis want Fao back at any price — and one of the generals commanding their counter-attacking columns pledged Saturday that they would have it back within the week.

For many years Fao was a small town, surrounded by sand and salty mudflats. Inhabitants earned a meagre living picking dates and gleaning salt from the sea.

Then came the oil boom of the 1970s and Fao assumed great importance as the country's principal outlet for oil exports from the rich southern fields.

The government built massive oil terminals outside Fao to load supertankers. Huge storage tanks held oil fed in from five fields in southern Iraq — Zubair, Rumaila, Abu Ghirab, Buzurgan and Lubais.

Iraq earned nearly 40 billion in petrodollars in 1979.

Then came the outbreak of war in September 1980. The Iranians soon had Fao in their sights to shut down vital Iraqi oil exports.

The town was in range of Iranian artillery on the other side of the Shatt. Fao was shelled and bombed in the early days of the conflict and virtually abandoned by the Iraqis.

Most of the oil installations were knocked out. The Iraqis sent in repair teams in 1983 but never succeeded in reopening the oil terminals before the latest Iranian attack.

Military analysts say Fao is strategically important because the Iranians, by holding the town, effectively block one of Iraq's only two outlets to the Gulf.

This leaves just a narrow channel to the other port of Umm Qasar up the Khawr Abdallah, a waterway that is half Kuwait's territorial waters.

The Iranians struck out to reach the shores of the Khawr Abdallah — causing consternation in Kuwait, a key port of entry for war material bound for Iraq.

Morocco well entrenched in Western Sahara

RABAT (R) — Ten years after the Spanish flag was hauled down over the Western Sahara, Morocco appears more entrenched than ever in what it officially calls its "Saharan provinces." Western diplomats say.

Shielded by the so-called "Sahara wall" — a network of sand and stone fortifications — Moroccans feel that time is on their side and that they have gained the upper hand after tough fighting with Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas.

"Morocco has won the war. Security is total," says Khalihenna Ould Errachid, minister for Saharan provincial development, who recently returned from the Western Saharan town of La'youn, just over 1,000 kilometres south west of Rabat, where he welcomed the first planeloads of tourists from the Spanish Canary Islands.

The Western Sahara's fate was sealed in November 1975 when, as dictator Francisco Franco lay dying, Spain shared out its last colony between Morocco and Mauritania in the Madrid Treaty.

On Feb. 27, 1976, Morocco officially took over the administration of the territory. The same day, the Polisario Front, which had been marshalling refugees on Algerian territory, proclaimed the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) and vowed to fight for independence.

Today, there is total political deadlock. The SADR is recognised by 65 countries and is a member of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). Morocco has quit the OAU but holds the Western Sahara "for eternity," says Mr. Ould Errachid, a Sahraoui.

U.N. and OAU-sponsored efforts to hold a referendum on self-determination have failed, although Morocco has offered to organise one, because they are all linked to direct talks between the two sides, something Morocco flatly rejects.

Not surprisingly, the two cannot agree on the military situation.

The Polisario says the "Sahara wall" is no obstacle. According to the many communiques it has issued in the last 12 months, its guerrillas have killed 2,286 Moroccan soldiers and wounded 3,300.

Moroccan officers say the wall, which runs in a continuous line from east of the Anti-Atlas Mountain range to a point on the coast about 200 kilometres north of the Mauritanian border port of Nouadhibou, keeps the guerrillas out. Even if they could breach it, only with a costly attack, it would get them nowhere since hundreds of kilometres of empty desert would still lie between them and populated areas near the coast.

They say the Polisario has settled for harassment, lobbing a few shells over the Moroccan defences before vanishing into the desert.

Bomb explodes near Jaffa Gate

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — A bomb exploded Sunday night at a bus stop near the busy Jaffa Gate of Jerusalem's Old City but no one was injured, Israeli police said. Two blasts have also hit the north Jerusalem suburbs of French Hill in the past 10 days, although no one was hurt in those either.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 773111

MAIN CHANNEL

16:00 Koran
16:20 Cartoons
16:45 Mickey Mouse
17:20 Children programmes
18:15 Small Wonder
18:00 Arabic Series
19:30 Local programme on Development
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:20 Local Comedy
22:00 Arabic film
23:00 News in Arabic
23:10 Film Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

17:55 L'archipel aquitaine
19:00 News in French
19:20 Magazine Sportif (French)
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Carol Burnett And Friends
21:10 The American Short Story: The Sky is Grey
22:00 News in English
22:20 Dallas

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9560 KHz, SW
Tel: 774111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
07:45 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session Contd.
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:15 Over a Cup of Tea
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 The 15th Century A.H.
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Sports Round-up
18:15 Special Feature
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show Contd.
23:00 News Summary
23:05 Evening Show Contd.
24:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk **06:30** Foreign Affairs **06:45** Doctor Who **06:55** Reflections **07:00** World News **07:09** Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary **07:30** Letterbox **07:45** Recording of the Week **08:00** Newsdesk **08:30** The Mind in Focus **09:00** World News **09:09** Twenty-For Hours: News Summary **09:30** Sarah and Company **10:00** World News **10:09** Reflections **10:15** Foreign Affairs **10:30** Anything Goes **11:00** World News **11:09** British Press Review **11:15** Good Books **11:30** Financial News **11:40** Look Ahead **11:45** Peeble's Choice **12:00** The Mind in Focus **12:30** Hitsville USA **13:00** World News **13:09** News About Britain **13:15** Talk **13:30** Album Time **14:00** Radio Newsreel **14:15** Quote, Unquote **14:45** Sports Round-up **15:00** World News **15:09** Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary **15:30** Kings of Swing **16:00** News Summary; Outlook **16:45** Breakfast at Tiffany's **17:00** Radio Newsreel **17:15** The Mind in Focus **17:45** What's New **18:00** World News **18:09** Commentary **18:15** My Country in Mind **18:30** The Music Business **18:45** The World Today **19:00** World News **19:09** Book Choice **19:15** My Word **19:45** Sports Round-up **20:00** Newsdesk **20:30** Charlie **21:00** News Summary; Outlook **21:09** Stock Market Report **21:45** Peebles' Choice **22:00** World News **22:09** Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary **22:30** Sports International **23:00** News Summary; Network U.K. **23:15** The Music Business **23:30** Rock Salad **24:00** World News **00:09** The World Today **00:25** Book Choice **00:40** Reflections **00:45** Sports Round-up **01:00** World News **01:09** Commentary **01:15** No Place Like It — Six Visions of Utopia **1:30** My Country in Mind

VOICE OF AMERICA
MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 Hz

06:00 News **06:10** Newsline **06:30** VOA Morning **07:00** News **07:10** Newsline **07:30** VOA Morning **08:00** News **08:10** Newsline **08:30** VOA Morning/ News Summary **17:00** News **17:10**

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

- An art exhibition by Hasan Agha at the Gallery of the Housing Bank complex (until March 6)

- An art exhibition by Yousef Badawi at the Spanish Cultural Centre (until Feb. 28).

- An exhibition of plastic arts at Yarmouk University (until Feb. 27)

- An art exhibition by Sa'id Nusceibeh at the Jordan National Gallery (until March 2).

- Engineering week at the Faculty of Engineering University of Jordan.

- French exhibition entitled "Les cinéastes Francais" at the French Cultural Centre (until Feb. 27)

FILMS

Feature film for children entitled "Robin Hood Junior" at 5:00 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday at the British Council.

- "Garde avue" at 8:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. tel. 661026/7
American Centre 644371
American Centre Library 641520
British Council 636147/8
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hussein Youth City 6671181/6
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library ... 637111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mintazah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh, 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 678906.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 677534
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel: 811295.

PRAYER TIMES

04:47 Fajr
06:10 (Sunrise) Duha
11:50 Dhuhr
15:03 'Asr
17:29 Maghreb
18:52 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53200-3, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

09:35 Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
09:45 Aqaba (RJ)
10:00 Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
10:00 Damascus (RJ)
10:00 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
12:05 Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)
13:35 Dhahran (TK)
13:45 Kuwait (KU)
15:10 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
17:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:15 Beirut (MEA)
18:35 Cairo (MS)
18:45 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
18:45 Bangkok (RJ)
19:00 Kuwait (RJ)
19:30 Baghdad (IA)
00:25 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:45 Damascus, Athens (OA)
06:45 Frankfurt (LH)
08:30 Aqaba (RJ)
11:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:00 Larnaca, Paris (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
13:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (GF)
14:00 Kuwait (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (RJ)
14:25 Istanbul (TK)
15:00 Kuwait (KU)
16:00 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:20 Cairo (MS)
19:30 Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:00 Damascus (RJ)
20:10 Baghdad (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:15 Cairo (RJ)
20:30 Baghdad (IA)
21:15 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Nedlloyd Rouen
— Mayouri
— RMS Laguna
— Obotritia

Amin Kawar and Sons Company, Tel: 622324-9 at your service.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology..

It will be fair. Light and variable winds will become northeasterly moderate in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Amman	6/12
Aqaba	11/27
Deserts	5/22
Jordan Valley	12/23

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 22, Aqaba 28. Humidity readings: Amman 31 per cent, Aqaba 19 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Sunday rates
Local sellibuy rates in fils

Bahraini dinar	960	968
Dutch guilder	136.3/	137.8
Egyptian guinea	200/	206
French franc	50.2/	50.7
Iraqi dinar	344/	352
Japanese yen (for 100)	194.2/	196.4
Kuwaiti dinar	1267/	1274
Lebanese lira	14/	16
Omani riyal	940/	950
Qatari riyal	99/	101
Saudi riyal	98/	101
Swedish crown	48.2/	48.8
Swiss franc	184.2/	186.3
Syrian lira	23/	25
UAE dirham	98/	100
U.K. sterling pound	514.7/	520.8
U.S. dollar	353.9/	357.1
W. German mark	154.1/	155.8

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate	891228
Amman civil defence	198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid	271293, 273131
Civil Defence Quweismeh	770733
Ambulance	193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade	198
First aid	630341
Blood bank	778303
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Fire headquarters	622090-3
Police rescue	192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters	639141
Traffic police	856390/1
Electric Power Co.	636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints	771125/8
Queen Alia Int. Airport	(08)53330/60

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Ama	644281/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amman	642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malhas, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845/65
Al-Muasher Hospital	667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen	777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	775111/26
Amm. Marka	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Ali Asa'd	775463
Dr. Nidal Marakah	842642
Firas Pharmacy	661912
Nairouk pharmacy	623672
Al Ahram pharmacy	779756
Fayez pharmacy	661627
University pharmacy	644554

TAXIS:

Venecia taxi	644585
Al Ahram taxi	663911
Mehyar taxi	644574
Assem taxi	844503
Allam taxi	666022
Al Nahar taxi	811619
Shmeisani taxi	665294

IRBID:

Dr. Nabiel Erayah	(—)
Al Razi pharmacy	(—)
Modern pharmacy	(—)

ZARQA:

Dr. Rabah Banieni	(—)
Qussi pharmacy	(—)

GENERAL

Jordan Television	773111/19
Radio Jordan	774111/19
Ministry of Tourism	642311
Hotel complaints	666412
Price complaints	661176
Telephone Information	12
Jordan and Middle East calls	10
Overseas calls	17
Repair service	11

MARKET PRICES

(Fixed prices for imported produce)

Upperlower price in fils per kg.

Apple	220/180	Coconut (each)	350/300
Apple (American)	500/450	Garlic (without leaves)	700/650
Beet	100/70	Onion (dry)	180/140
Chestnut	700/600	Potatoes (Polish)	90/80
		Sage (green)	260/200

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ruseifa presents shield to Rawabdeh

AMMAN (Petra) — A ceremony was held at Amman Municipality Sunday to present Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh with the shield of Ruseifa Municipality in recognition of his efforts to help Ruseifa's municipal council carry out its various public service projects. Ruseifa Mayor Misleh Al Tarawneh presented the shield to Mr. Rawabdeh and a second to Dr. Hisham Al Zagha, director of the Urban Development Department, who helped to carry out an integrated housing project in Ruseifa. The mayor voiced his appreciation for the gift and said that Amman Municipality would continue to cooperate with Jordanian municipalities in general and those in the Greater Amman region in particular.

Sports for handicapped course begins

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day training course on sports for the handicapped was opened Sunday at the Nazek Al Hariri Centre for Special Education by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid. Thirty special education teachers are taking part and will be oriented on up to date methods for training handicapped youth in sports skills. The participants, all affiliated to rehabilitation centres around the country, will hear lectures from Jordanian and American specialists on sports for the handicapped.

Supply team to visit Syrian bakeries

RAMTHA (Petra) — A Jordanian delegation, led by Under Secretary of the Ministry of Supply Abdullah Al Hawamdeh, left for Damascus by land Sunday on a visit to Syria expected to last five days. In a statement upon departure from the border post of Ramtha, Mr. Hawamdeh said that his talks with Syrian officials will deal with the possible purchase of production lines to be installed in automated bakeries in Irbid. The delegation will inspect Syrian supply systems, classification of hotels and controlling commodity prices, Mr. Hawamdeh said. The Supply Ministry official is accompanied by several officials including a representative of the bakeries which are owned and run by the Ministry of Supply.

Lights on at Mushatta Palace

AMMAN (Petra) — The Tourism Authority has supplied electricity to Al Mushatta Palace and it will now be lit from 6:00 p.m. until 6 a.m. The step was taken due to the touristic importance of the palace which dates back to the Umayyad era and to encourage tourism. Sources at the authority said that the authority is currently conducting a study on the electrification of all tourist and archaeological sites of historical importance.

Ministry organises computer training

AMMAN (Petra) — A training course on microcomputers will be held Thursday at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources in cooperation with the European Community. Participants will receive practical and theoretical training in microcomputers and their uses in energy, economics, planning and project evaluation. Taking part in the 15-day course are 15 employees from the ministry and the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA).

More antiquities unearthed in Jerash

AMMAN (J.T.) — Recent archaeological excavations in Jerash have led to the discovery of Greek inscriptions in the courtyard of the Zeus temple. Also discovered were Umayyad houses and an Umayyad mosque in addition to a pottery factory and coins dating back to various ages. The excavations were conducted by the Department of Antiquities in cooperation with a French team of archaeologists.

Joint committee to convene in Athens

AMMAN (J.T.) — The joint Jordanian-Greek committee is to hold its meetings in Athens during the second half of next month. The Jordanian delegation to these meetings will be headed by Ministry of Industry and Trade Under Secretary Mohammad Al Saqqaf.

Notables, citizens turn out in force to demonstrate backing for King

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday received further support and backing from different sectors of people in Jordan for his national policies and his endeavours to serve the Palestine cause and the Palestinian people.

Enthusiastic crowds representing the people of Irbid Governorate converged on the Royal Court in Amman on Sunday in a demonstration of support for the King following his nationwide address on Wednesday evening in which he outlined Jordan's policies vis-a-vis the Palestine problem and relations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Several notables made speeches before King Hussein at the Royal Court paying tribute to the King's endeavours to save the Arab people of Palestine from Israeli rule and to safeguard the land and the holy places. The speakers also reaffirmed the sacred unity between the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples which they said was an exemplary unity which should be copied by other Arab states.

Among the notable speakers were Dr. Anwar Shubul, Ibrahim Naji, Sa'ad Al Halabouni, Mohammad Hawamdeh, Mohammad Al Ghazzawi, Nader Al Kayed, Ali Al Amin, Mohammad Hassan Al Rifai, Sheikh Ali Abu Al Aish and Hashem Abu Sardaneh.

Later King Hussein received a delegation representing the General Federation of Jordanian Women led by its President Haifa Al Bashir, who made a speech voicing women's support for the King's wise leadership and national policies.

In a reply speech, King Hussein expressed his appreciation for the overwhelming support he has received. He said that the recent developments should forge a closer cohesion between the Palestinians and the Jordanians who should remain partners in the common march leading to the fulfilment of national aspirations and the liberation of land and holy places.

The King said that he decided to present the facts to the people about his long endeavours with the PLO because he believes in the capability of his people and their determination to confront danger and challenges. He said through continued dialogue between the two peoples, he hopes to arrive at a unified stand and bring about the liberation of holy lands.

The Royal Court also announced Sunday that it has received further cables of support for King Hussein. The Royal Court said that the cables voiced renewed allegiance to King Hussein from different sectors of the public. Among those sending cables were former Armed Forces Commander in Chief Habes Majali, Parliament deputies from the West Bank, Jordanians employed in the United Arab Emirates, heads of tribes and representatives of municipal and village councils in the Kingdom, notables from different Palestinian refugee camps in the country and members of trade unions.

Senate expresses full support for King's address, national policies

Following are major excerpts of a statement issued by the Upper House of Parliament Sunday and presented to His Majesty King Hussein during an audience at the Royal Court

The Upper House of Parliament conveys to Your Majesty deep appreciation for your endeavours to serve national causes and renews its allegiance to the Hashemite throne.

Your nation-wide address delivered on Wednesday evening has presented to the nation a complete picture of the facts about the recent events and developments and the efforts you have been exerting for the sake of achieving a just and durable peace which would bring about a salvation of the Arab people from Israeli occupation and a liberation of the holy places.

The members of our House heard and also discussed with open hearts and minds your address to the nation and regard it as a historic document presenting to the Jordanian family details about the situation and defining the course to be taken in the future.

The speech presented the following facts:

1- The Hashemite leadership will remain committed to defending the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

2- The peoples of the two banks of Jordan will remain in cohesion for better and for worse and for safeguarding national security and upholding the will of the people in unity and facing the common destiny. In the course of preserving Jordanian-Palestinian cohesion, the Jordanian-Palestinian accord will remain as a basis for relations between the two peoples who will have equal rights and duties.

3- Jordan is persistent in following intensive efforts for regaining national Arab rights in Palestine within a framework of a just and durable settlement without giving up any right and without concluding a separate or unilateral settlement. Parliament members do hereby reaffirm the provisions of the resolution for unity between the two banks which clearly states that all measures should be made and efforts should be exerted for safeguarding the rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

4- Jordan's determination to build up a strong line of defence with an armed forces equipped with modern weapons and by forming a People's Army is bound to bolster the country's power on the internal and external fronts and thwart any aggression on the nation.

5- The House sends greetings to the people in the occupied Arab territories for their steadfastness and their heroic stand in the face of Israel's arbitrary measures.

Your Majesty

In your address to the nation you have presented a detailed outline about Israel's settlement policies which entail Judaising Arab land evicting the Arab people from their homeland and also taking measures to obliterate Palestinian character and holy places. These policies are bound to offer Israel the chance to seize Arab land and to separate the Arab people from their land and it means we must intensify our efforts to regain Arab lands and Arab rights.

In the present circumstances, Your Majesty has been able to reach a course leading to the liberation of the land and the holy places through an international conference to be held under United Nations auspices and to be attended by permanent U.N. Security Council member nations and all parties to the Middle East conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on an equal footing with the others. This conference would implement U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 in the letter and the spirit, bringing about a withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab territory in exchange for peace. In your endeavours to ensure a quorum for the conference, Your Majesty has been concerned with the task of involving the PLO projecting its image as a responsible body, desiring to make peace. As you have made it clear in your speech, Your Majesty has been coordinating your efforts with the PLO at every step and stage and you have paved the way for the PLO to take part in the projected conference.

Unfortunately, the PLO leadership has confused the issue of withdrawal of Israeli forces with the question of Palestinian people's rights and then regarded itself as being the land and the rights of the Palestinian people. The PLO had earlier agreed with the Jordanian leadership on a suitable formula to launch a diplomatic offensive within an Arab framework. But the PLO later retreated and went back on this agreement. This resulted in the failure to convene a meeting in London last year between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the British government. We were pained later to see the PLO changing its stands and going back on its pledges and its promises; accepting formulas on some occasions and rejecting them on others.

Your strenuous efforts to reach consensus with the PLO and your relentless efforts to arrive at an acceptable solution were obvious to all and since your efforts unfortunately did not bear fruit, you decided to stop all political coordination with the PLO leadership until this leadership becomes committed to its pledges and re-establishes its consistency and credibility.

The Upper House of Parliament regards your decisions as a natural result of the long and a painful attempts and contacts with the PLO. This House also supports the Jordanian leadership's presentation of the facts to the Palestinian people everywhere to make a reassessment of the whole situation and to consider taking proper decision without losing a chance and without further hesitation.

In the light of these facts, the Upper House of Parliament extends total support for your policies contained in the national address and backs your leadership in serving Palestine and other national causes.

Prince Hassan inaugurates major agricultural projects in northern Jordan Valley

JVA implements Wadi Al Arab dam, irrigation systems

IRBID (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday inaugurated three agricultural development projects which will enable an additional 40,000 dunums of land in northern Jordan to be put under irrigation and thereby help to increase agricultural production.

One of the projects is an irrigation project, another is a pumping system and the third is a dam built at the Wadi Al Arab district.

In a speech at the inauguration ceremony, Prince Hassan conveyed the greetings of His Majesty King Hussein to all those who contributed to the implementation of the projects which, he said, have been designed to help Jordan ensure food and water security. Prince Hassan expressed appreciation to South Korean and Japanese teams of technicians who were involved in the implementation of the project and who also helped in the training of local technicians and workers.

At the outset of the ceremony, Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) Director General Munther Haddadin made a speech in which he gave some details about the projects which are all located in the northern Jordan Valley region.

Dr. Haddadin explained that the dam at Wadi Al Arab is designed to help store nearly 20 million cubic metres of water annually in an artificial lake, four kilometres long and 500 metres wide. Water stored in the reservoir, he said, will help reclaim new lands estimated at 12,500 dunums and will provide drinking water to Amman in addition to irrigating 28,000 dunums of land near North Shuneh through surface channels and pipes.

Pumping system

He said that the Wadi Al Arab pumping system has been installed to draw nearly 10 million cubic metres of water from the East Ghor Canal in winter to the Wadi Al Arab reservoir. This project entailed installing a pumping station which raises water to a height of 133 metres, a power generating station and a 3.2 kilometre long pipeline to carry the water to the lake behind the Wadi Al Arab dam, Dr. Haddadin continued. Work on the Wadi Al Arab dam and power generating station started in September 1983, Dr. Haddadin added.

He went on to say that work on the third project, which aims at reclaiming some 12,500 dunums of land and irrigating nearly 28,000 dunums, started in December 1983. This project, according to Dr. Haddadin, will benefit 400 agricultural units each of a 30 dunum area which will be distributed to local people according to JVA regulations. He said that the projects had an estimated overall cost of JD 25 million financed equally by the Jordanian treasury and through a Japanese loan.

The Japanese and South Korean ambassadors were among dignatories attending the opening ceremony.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday inspects development schemes implemented by the JVA in the Jordan Valley (Petra photo)

JMA president discusses medical specialisations

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian Medical Association (JMA) President Hassan Khreis has called for setting up medical specialisations on sound and proper bases to help develop Jordan's medical institutions.

Speaking during a press conference held Sunday at the Professional Associations Complex, Dr. Khreis said that the issue of specialisations has become important as there are now 17 medical specialisation societies in addition to the general practitioners association. He also added that the JMA handled the subject of a law for professional and specialisation titles in 1977 through evaluation of specialisation certificates and training.

The intern exam, Dr. Khreis said, is adopted in most countries of the world in order to give doctors the necessary licence.

Five Jordanian scientists win foundation's awards

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation (AHSF) Sunday announced the names of nine young Arab scientists who have won the foundation's awards, each worth JD 3,000, for their distinguished work in 1985.

AHSF Director General Asad Abdul Rahman announced the names of the winners at a press conference in Amman and said that for the first time since its establishment in 1980, the foundation is presenting the majority of the awards to Jordanian scientists. He named the nine winners as: Dr. Hani Nicola Khouri (basic sciences), Dr. Ali Ahmad Fodeh (mathematics, statistics and computers), Dr. Mukhtar Omar Abbasi Mukhtar (engineering sciences), Dr. Samir Fuad Atuwi (medical sciences), Dr. Abdullah Saleh Oweidi Al Abbadi (chemical medicine), Dr. Anwar Al Battikhi (agricultural sciences), Dr. Farouk Al 'Ani (biological sciences), Dr. Radwan Al Sayyed (humanities), Dr. Jawdat Sa'adeh (social sciences).

Out of 84 scientists who were nominated by different Arab countries only 75 were eligible for consideration, and only nine received awards, five of whom were Jordanians, Dr. Abdul Rahman said.

He said that the AHSF will hold a special ceremony on March 16 to present the awards to the winners. Also, he said, the foundation plans to hold a competition for senior Arab scientists who come up with inventions. He said that the foundation will request researchers to publish their finds in the foundation's scientific gazette and will collect their different researches in special volumes to be placed under the disposal of Arab learners.

Cultural centre to hold French film week

By Olga Mikhael
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — French cinema lovers in Amman will have the opportunity next week to watch four modern French films by prominent French directors and starring well known actors. The films, "Rue Cases Negres," "Providence," "Carde a Vue" and "Bon Petine Diable," will be screened at the French Cultural Centre from Feb. 24 to inaugurate the opening of the new premises for the French audiovisual unit in Amman.

The French regional audiovisual unit has recently moved its offices to the French Cultural Centre in Jabal Luweibdeh, thus extending its services to all students and visitors to the centre. The audiovisual unit's main objective is to introduce French cinema productions to the Jordanian public in order to help increase the cultural interaction between the two countries.

In France after 1959, world attention focused on what came to be known as "new wave" productions when French directors, notably Francois Truffaut, Jean-Luc Godard and Alain Resnais, became known world-wide for their works.

Providence, a 1977 production by director Alain Resnais will be among the films to be presented during the French film week. Alain Resnais, a former director of documentary shorts including the 1955 production Night and Fog, is also famous for his complex, fragmented and intellectually demanding style. Resnais produced the stunning "Hiroshima Mon Amour" (1958), which was a landmark in the New Wave cinema in France. It was followed by "L'annee Derniere a Marienbad" (1960), "Muriel" (1962), "La Guerre Est Finie" (1965) and "Je T'Aime, Je T'Aime" (1967).

In 1977, using his intellectual and stylistic abstraction, Resnais produced Providence. The film, starring Dirk Bogarde and Ellen Burstyn, tells the story of a famous writer who knows that he is going to die soon. On the eve of his 78th birthday, he writes his last work, a story whose main characters are the members of his family. The old writer has a nightmare; terrible events are happening on a football ground where hideous people are arrested and detained. The film reflects the French director's shrewd contemplation of death and artistic creativity.

"Carde a Vue" is the Claude Miller's third feature. Miller had earlier worked as an assistant to Godard and Truffaut. The story takes place in a provincial town where everyone is preparing for the new year. Two young girls have been found, raped and killed. Inspector Gallien, played by French actor Lino Ventura, calls in the public notary to clear up a few details. It was the public notary who discovered the body of one of the girls and notified the police. The public notary, Maitre Martinaud, arouses suspicion and the inspector decides to keep him watched all the time. Martinaud's wife, played by actress Romy Schneider, comes to see the inspector and her evidence makes the inspector think that he is on the right track and that he has the guilty man. But the public notary is smarter than the inspector thinks.

Children also will have their share of entertainment during the French film week. "Un Bon Petite Diable," a production of director Jean Claude Brialy, is a film for both adults and children. Brialy, born in 1933, started his career as an actor and he worked with Eric Rohmer, Jacques Rivette, Jean-Luc Godard and Claude Chabrol. Brialy participated in more than 70 films before directing his own first feature. "Un Bon Petite Diable" tells the story of a selfish old woman and ten-year-old boy living in a village in Normandy in 1860.

Iraq says major junction recaptured in Fao

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Basharati told a news conference in Damascus that Iraq's Gulf Arab supporters should not worry about Iran's "advances" during its new offensive.

"We assure all, especially the Gulf states, that we will work for the non-expansion of this war and (Iran's) forces and capabilities will guarantee this," Mr. Basharati said.

"Tehran has no expansionist ambitions — neither in Iraq nor in the Gulf states..." he said.

Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah was quoted on Sunday as saying that his country was ready to cope with any threats from Iran.

He told Kuwaiti newspapers that "if Iran chose to be our enemy, then we are ready for that."

Sheikh Sabah was issued his statement to local newspapers in response to a statement by Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani.

"This threat is not the first by Iran and I am very sorry that this should comes from a Muslim neighbouring country which has good relations with Kuwait," Sheikh Sabah said. "The Kuwaiti men who are deployed along the border lines have the orders to open fire on whoever attempt to commit aggression on Kuwaiti territory."

A high-ranking Iraqi official paid a short visit to Kuwait Saturday and discussed with Kuwaiti officials the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

Iraq's Oil Minister Qassem Ahmad Taqi left Kuwait Saturday evening after a brief visit during which he delivered a message from President Saddam Hussein to the emir, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said.

Mr. Taqi also met his Kuwaiti counterpart, Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah, KUNA said.

In Kuwait, senior Arab parliamentarians called on the Arab World on Sunday to close ranks and lamented a lack of support for Iraq in its war against Iran, parliamentary sources quoted by Reuter said.

Kuwait invited 15 speakers and deputy speakers of Arab parliaments to the official opening of a new national assembly chamber on Sunday.

Philippines stand off worsens

(Continued from page 1)

national police headquarters.

"We are consolidating so we have a smaller perimeter to defend," said rebel Colonel Hector Tarranza.

Crowds in the street patted the soldiers and chanted "Cory, Cory." Nuns handed out soft drinks to the troops as they crossed.

The country's two spiritual leaders, Cardinals Jaime Sin and Ricardo Vidal, have broadcast calls for moral support and sustenance for the rebels.

Mrs. Aquino also urged her followers to assemble at the camps to back Gen. Ramos and Mr. Enrile. She said she would visit Camp Crame later.

She returned to the capital from Cebu, central Philippines — where 200,000 people attended a rally on Saturday protesting at the conduct of the Feb. 7 election — and issued a statement saying:

"For the sake of Filipino people, Mr. Marcos must step down now so we can have a peaceful transition of government."

Mr. Marcos claimed Saturday night there was a plot to kill him and his wife Imelda.



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A change of heart?

IRAN'S DRIVE to seize Iraqi territory and then move forces into positions where they could threaten Arab states in the Gulf has obviously been thwarted, thanks to the solid resistance of the Iraqi armed forces.

When Iran launched its offensive on southern Iraq earlier this month, Iranian military commanders and political leaders did not conceal their ambitions and intentions, and plainly said their forces would continue their advance to achieve Tehran's ulterior objectives.

Now, however, as the tables are being turned on Iran, its leaders seem to be changing their tone and trying also to woo Arab Gulf states. For the first time, a senior Iranian official was quoted as saying that Tehran was ready to discuss its war and economic aims with Iraq's supporters in the Gulf. Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani announced that "the time had come for talks about the destiny of the Gulf region." If the reports of the change of heart in Tehran are true, then it would be an indication that its leaders have finally had their senses knocked back into them, the hard way, and at the cost of countless human and material losses.

Rafsanjani has undoubtedly reached his conclusion after the bulk of Iran's invading forces has reportedly been annihilated, and in the light of reports by neutral observers that it was only a matter of time before the Iraqis would retake the Fao Peninsula and evict the invading forces.

Of course, the Gulf states realise that they will remain in danger as long as Iran's rulers were intent on pursuing their war and harbouring evil intentions against Arab neighbours. Notwithstanding the fact that these states continue to suffer because of the war, the only alternative they have is to go on helping Iraq to repel aggression, and it would be naive to believe that they would easily accept Rafsanjani's statement at face value without concrete proof of genuine Iranian intentions about reaching a peaceful solution. It would indeed be difficult for these states to believe in statements by Tehran's rulers, who, over the past five years, scoffed at mediation efforts and made mockery of United Nations resolutions aimed at bringing the conflict to an end.

Iran's most recent and notorious attitude was displayed in its decision to absent itself from the current Security Council debate on the Gulf war. This show of disregard to international will is a clear indication of Tehran's evil intentions and surely would not help persuade leaders of the Arab Gulf states to respond favourably to the ayatollahs' bid.

For Rafsanjani's statement to be creditable, Tehran ought first to stop all hostilities against Iraq, pull back its forces and accept the Security Council resolution due to be passed Monday calling for a ceasefire in preparation for other steps leading to peace. Tehran has to realise that after all actions speak louder than words.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Allegiance for the King

THE representatives of the people at the Lower House of Parliament Saturday called at the Royal Court to express support and to demonstrate renewed allegiance for King Hussein and to reaffirm cohesion among the members of the Jordanian family. In their speeches, notables and representatives of parliament and other delegations, who met the King, voiced pride in the King's wise leadership and lauded his efforts designed to safeguard Arab interests. In his reply speeches to the delegations, King Hussein reaffirmed that he found it his duty to present the facts before the people and that he will continue to shoulder his responsibility and serve the Palestine cause. King Hussein said that the challenges confronting the Arabs as a nation require concerted efforts. He said priority should be given to saving the Arab people from Israeli occupation and liberating the usurped holy places. This cohesion between ruler and people is the basis for a strong national unity that is required in every endeavour.

Al Dustour: King and people

PARLIAMENT members Saturday reaffirmed their total confidence in the King's leadership, and the representatives of various public sectors in Jordan renewed their allegiance to the throne. The delegations who visited the Royal Court to express their feelings and their confidence in the King's stands and policies have realised the dimensions of the challenges which the Arabs are now facing, and in the light of the King's address to the nation on Wednesday, found that their King has been exerting tremendous efforts to help the Arab people of Palestine to regain their lost territory. These delegations who represent all the Palestinians and various communities in Jordan are aware of the great and serious dangers that now threaten the nation and realise the need for cohesion and unity. Their speeches reflected their total confidence in the King and his policies designed to establish permanent peace that would ensure the rights of the Palestinian people. In his reply to the speeches the King made it clear that he does not intend to act for the Palestinians, but he will continue to extend all possible help to his brothers to enable them achieve their aspirations.

Sawt Al Shaab: Seeking peace

THOUSANDS of people all over the country Saturday made it a point to visit the Royal Court in Amman and many thousands more calle at governors' headquarters in various districts with the purpose of voicing support for the King and his national policies. The open speeches which the representatives of the people and the heads of various organisations and public sectors made before the King at the Royal Court and the cables of support which the Royal Court received over the past three days clearly reflect the people's total confidence in the leader and their firm belief in his endeavours for regaining Arab rights in Palestine. The past two days have in fact witnessed a demonstration of overwhelming support for the monarch who made it clear in speeches before the delegations that the serious situation makes it incumbent on all Arabs to unite and to work in concerted efforts to regain their rights. He said priority should be given to plans for regaining our territory and saving the people from Israeli occupation. The King said he will continue to work for the Palestine cause and help achieve durable and just peace.

Neturei Karta: The anti-Zionist Jews

By Yosef Becher

ZIONISM is not synonymous with Judaism: all Jews are not Zionists, and most Zionists do not believe or observe Judaism's precepts. Israel is a Zionist state, *not* a Jewish state. We hold that a Jew is one who observes the laws and commandments of the Torah. The Torah forbids us to have any national aspirations and definitely not a state before the advent of Moshiach. This would be so even if the state accepted and followed the laws of the Torah — which it does not — and did not shed any blood — which it does. Equating Zionism with Judaism is a delusion. The Zionist leaders have *never* spoken for Judaism, have *never* represented world Jewry: their national interests have always taken precedence over the interests of world Jewry. To Jews who are true to their legacy, who strive to uphold the Torah as given to us on Mount Sinai, the Zionist state is the antithesis of all that we have struggled to maintain over 2,000 years. Zionism negates religious principles, denies our obligations, and has succeeded in alienating generations of youth from faith in Judaism.

Israel is a Zionist state, not a Jewish state.

We of Neturei Karta have struggled and will continue to fight this tide that would engulf *our* world and destroy it. We are opposed to this secular socialist perversion that calls itself a "Jewish state." We are appalled that the world can accept and identify the Zionist state as Jewish and as the voice of Jewry.

Let me explain a bit about Neturei Karta. The term is Aramaic meaning "Guardians of the City," and derives from a Talmudic saying. The Talmud tells us that two rabbis, Rob Ami and Reb Asi, were sent to see if each town of the Holy Land had a school and a house of worship where children were being taught the holy law, the Torah. In one town they did not find anyone teaching the children or educating the youth about the Torah. They asked the townspeople where were the Neturei Karta. When the townspeople brought them the soldiers and the police the rabbis told them: "These are not the Neturei Karta, these are the Machrivei Karta, the destroyers of the city." The true guardians of the city are those who pray in the houses of worship and study and teach the children Torah.

We of Neturei Karta do not consider ourselves a political organisation, but first and foremost Jews. The phenomenon that began with the Enlightenment and Reform movement in Germany and continued with Zionism resulted in the twisted concept that one could be a Jew and yet not keep the precepts of the Torah. This idea represents a very grave danger to the Jewish people and the Jewish faith. The state of Israel is a product of the belief that one could be a Jew without keeping the Torah.

Those who subscribe to this belief pick and choose among the 613 precepts given us by the Almighty, observing and violating commandments at will. A secular analogy would be citizens of the United States choosing to obey certain laws and regulations and violating others. Yet this is graver, for the Almighty gave the Jews the Torah and told them that they must observe his commandments. By doing so, they serve the Creator and thereby serve mankind in a special way. If a Jew selects certain commandments and refuses to observe others, he has no right to call himself a Jew.

The nations of the world have given legitimacy to the Zionist movement by dealing with it as though it were representative of all Jews. Yet, true Jews do not dabble in politics: they serve the Creator, live in their own communities, study the holy law, and worship the Almighty. Their concerns are their daily chores, not international affairs and politics.

Judaism provides the base for an understanding of the position of Jews in the world which is very different from that of Zionism. Some of the details of the destruction of the first and second Temples as described in the Torah, the Talmud, and in the Prophets illustrate this. The similarities with our present situation are noteworthy.

In the *Song of Hazzinu* (Deut. 32.7) Moses gave forth the word of the Almighty, enjoining the Jewish people to. "Remember the annals of history, remember each and every generation what happens. If you don't know, ask your father or ask your grandfather." What does this mean for us? The Talmud says that only 48 Prophets are mentioned in the Torah, because their prophecies were meant for all generations. A literal rendition of the Prophets will not enable one to fully understand their words unless taken together with the Talmud — the oral law, which was codified and transcribed by the rabbis. Thus, for example, the expression "an eye for an eye" has been used to justify revenge and retaliation. But as the oral law expounds, literally taking an eye for an eye is not only forbidden, it is an outrageous interpretation of this verse. Indeed, our rabbis tell us that revenge is expressly forbidden. The law provides for monetary compensation for physical damage.

Jeremiah, one of the Prophets who speaks about the destruction of the first temple, continually warned the Jewish people of the consequences of their sinful behaviour. For 40 years he pleaded with the Jews, with the king and his ministers, before the destruction of the temple. He begged them to give up the political state, lay down their arms and surrender to Nebudhadnezar, emperor of Babylon. The king, Yehoyokim, and his ministers refused. They wanted to have their ministries, their embassies and their glory. However, the ordinary religious people were not interested in the trappings of state. So Jeremiah pleaded with the people to leave the city and surrender. He kept prophesying dire consequences unless the people repented. He was jailed so that he would be silenced. Another king, Tzidkiyahu, imprisoned Jeremiah again. He could no longer speak out; he could not deal with the king and ministers. He decided to save a remnant so that Judaism could survive. He knew that Judaism was not nationalist in nature; but a faith. When the temple was destroyed, Jeremiah told those who went into exile in Babylon to be loyal to the country wherein they resided. Till this very day, the Jewish people have obeyed Jeremiah's precept — that exile entails loyalty to the host nation.

At the destruction of the second temple, the Jews were totally uninterested in nationalism. They did not want to serve in any armed forces of the state. The Talmud relates that certain Jewish kings at times hired armies from different countries and made alliances with them, so they could wage wars, and the majority were against the political aspirations of their rulers. They were men of peace. The rabbis, headed by Rabbi Yochanan Ben Zakai, repeated Jeremiah's warning: if they would surrender the state there would be peace, and no lives would be lost. They pleaded with the rulers to lay down their arms and make peace with the Romans. But those in power insisted on continuing the fighting. When the situation became intolerable, Rabbi Yochanan Ben Zakai managed to leave the city by feigning death (a corpse might not remain in Jerusalem overnight), and reached Vespasian's camp. He was asked why he had not come sooner and replied bluntly that the rebels had not allowed him to leave.

We learn several important lessons from this passage. First, the rabbi did not fear being labelled a "traitor" when he went to negotiate with the enemy. He disregarded the opinions of those who had cast aside Torah ideals and operated under the principle that "might makes right." Second, he separated himself completely from the powers in control and went to the enemy who was seeking to destroy Jewish political control. He chose to save the spiritual future of the nation knowing that no material gain could ensure salvation.

We see from the destruction of the first and second temples, from the Torah and the Talmud, that when rulers recognised Jewish religious figures, this was of great benefit to the Jewish populace. The Jewish faith has continued to survive because it is *not* political nor led by politicians. Continuous fighting and political machinations will not ensure Jewish survival, but only hasten its demise. Our survival has been due only to our adherence to the Torah and to the leadership of truly *religious* leaders.

The world has given legitimacy to the Zionist movement by dealing with it as if it were representative of all Jews

In recent history, Jewish religious figures have sought to negotiate for peace in the Middle East on behalf of the Jewish people. Some of them have died for this cause.

Dr. Jacob Israel DeHaan, a Dutch Jew who came to the Holy Land in 1920, served the chief rabbis of the Orthodox community who were opposed to Zionism and opposed to the British Mandate that allowed the Zionists to control the Holy Land. Dr. De Haan made it his business to appear before government officials of England and the League of Nations whenever possible, in order to explain the views of the Torah-true Jews. On 29 June 1924, as he was leaving the Sharei Tzedek synagogue after evening prayers, he was shot in cold blood. He had planned to leave the next day with a delegation to England to argue against Zionism. The Zionists were well aware of this. They had called for his murder many times.

On 16 June 1947, when the United Nations Commission on Palestine met in Jerusalem, Rabbi Yosef Tzvi Dushinsky, Chief Rabbi of the Holy Land, and Rabbi Zelig Reuven Bengis personally testified against the establishment of a Jewish state and appealed to the commissioners at least to keep Jerusalem as a separate entity. The rabbis also feared that a Jewish state would be a rallying point for anti-Semitism and thus an actual danger to the Jewish people. The U.N. commission did not heed the requests of the Orthodox Jewish community. Had they done so, the tragedies convulsing the Holy Land today would never have occurred.

The Jewish people adhere to the Torah, which repeatedly affirms its abhorrence of bloodshed. It must be reiterated that literal interpretation of any talmudic or Biblical expression should not be undertaken lightly. In attempting to justify pre-emptive strikes, some misquote our holy Scriptures for their own ends, as did the present U.S. secretary of state, George Shultz. Pre-emptive strikes are not countenanced by Judaism. Judaic law stresses that the least amount of blood possible be shed in battle and that the objective should be to injure rather than kill the enemy. Bloodshed must be avoided at all costs and can be sanctioned *only* if it can be proved that murder was intended. A pre-emptive strike precludes the possibility of establishing that there was a definitive intent to kill; therefore it is expressly forbidden.

We, as believers in the Almighty, pray for the peaceful disappearance of the state of Israel. We cannot know how this is going to come about, but we have faith that it will. We do, however, implore the world not to recognise the Zionists and their network as the legitimate spokesmen of the Jewish people. The authentic Jews, those who are true to the law and the traditions, beg to be heard. Do not confuse political rhetoric with truth. To avert catastrophe, to prevent needless bloodshed, we beg that the world recognise the true face of the Zionist state and withhold its approval. It is the sincere desire of Torah-true Jews everywhere to live in peace with our neighbours in the lands of our residence until the final Divine redemption when all mankind shall be restored to peace and harmony.

Rabbi Yosef Becher is a leading spokesman for the Neturei Karta in the U.S. He has travelled widely in the Middle East, and is a frequent visitor to Jewish communities in the Arab countries.

Big change in year of Gorbachev, more to come

By Charles Bremner
Reuter

MOSCOW — As the Soviet Union awaits a landmark political gathering in Moscow, the country is looking back at a year that has seen more change in public life than any for decades.

Diplomats, Communist Party members and ordinary citizens seem to agree that, in atmosphere and leadership style at least, the country has undergone a transformation since Mikhail Gorbachev succeeded the late Konstantin Chernenko last March.

But opinions differ over Gorbachev's chances of success with his pledge to revive the wasteful and inefficient economy, transform living standards and inspire new commitment to Communist values.

"It's not just talk," one Moscow party official told Reuters. "People had had enough and these younger men know what's needed."

But the Marxist dissident historian Roy Medvedev disagrees. "Orders still flow downwards *from the Kremlin and run out of* steam as they reach the lowest levels. People are indifferent," he said.

Since he took office, Gorbachev and his men have been working to the deadline of the 17th party congress, which starts on Tuesday. The congress is seen as the most significant of the twice-a-decade events since the Khrushchev era 25 years ago.

There he will report to the party elite on the state of the nation, set goals for the future and most likely deliver what will be the historical verdict on the rule of the late Leonid Brezhnev, who died in 1982.

Brezhnev and his associates are being increasingly blamed for the corruption and apathy that grew up in the 1970s.

"Just as Khrushchev was branded with the label voluntarism and subjectivism, Brezhnev will be condemned for something like servility and stagnation," one diplomat said.

One of the main themes of the Gorbachev administration is its war on elderly, grafting and incompetent officials, thousands of whom have been sacked from the vast state administration and party apparatus that controls it.

The drive appears to have won popular support. Disgruntled customers can be heard invoking the campaign for new order to get action from obstructive shop assistants or petty officialdom.

The campaign has been backed by unprecedented debate and criticism in the party-controlled press, which has hounded high officials from office and dealt with subjects that were previously taboo.

One of these is the issue of privileges enjoyed by the elite. A letter in the daily Pravda complained this week of "all sorts of special cafeterias, shops, hospitals and so on."

But beyond the loud public campaign for harder work and more honesty, foreign diplomats and some ordinary Soviets say the arrival of the Gorbachev team and the departure of the old guard has made little positive impact on daily life.

And the one most visible measure — Gorbachev's drive against alcohol — appears to have caused widespread resentment.

People appear to approve strongly of the crackdown on public drunks and on work-shirking boozers, but the parallel closure of drink shops and alcohol production has made it difficult to obtain even the odd bottle of vodka or wine.

Equally, the Kremlin's promises to improve the quality and range of consumer goods, which bear no comparison with those stocked in Western shops, have yet to be put into practice.

Gorbachev said in a press interview last week: "Among the most urgent matters is to satiate the market with good quality products and in a broad assortment."

Brezhnev made almost identical promises in the mid-1970s, but standards remained low.

The new leader and his lieutenants have made no secret of the fact that a better life for the people will come only from hard work.

"The prospects will depend on how well we cope with the problems that have arisen, on how well and skilfully we work," he said in the interview with the French Communist newspaper L'humanite.

Embassy analysts all reached a similar conclusion after the party issued its new five-year plan guideliness for economic development, due to be endorsed at next week's congress.

This puts investment priorities heavily on modernising industries such as machine-building and allocates few new resources of consumer industries.

Foreign experts are increasingly dubious about Gorbachev's chances of achieving radical progress in the economy unless his team opt for major structural changes.

So far he has shunned the word reform and based his formula on "perfecting" the central-planning system, cutting middle-ranking bureaucracy and appointing better managers.

His effective second-in-command, Yegor Ligachev, has taken a tougher line on the issue of reform, twice rejecting any chance that the country could move to market-based methods, as Hungary and China have done.

Some analysts believe Gorbachev may be waiting until after the congress and the installation of a party central committee more favourable to his ideas, before making radical moves.

The Moscow party official, who asked not to be named, said this was possible. "Don't forget we feel we're competing with China. If they are succeeding then we can't be left behind."

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CITIZEN

Australian farmers' revolt spreads like a bush fire

Depressed prices, protectionism, rising costs and high interest rates are hitting Australia's farmers hard. Now militancy is spreading and the government faces a rough rural ride, says **Michael Thompson-Noel.**

SYDNEY— Despite its current high standing in the opinion polls, Mr. Bob Hawke's Australian Labour Party government seems headed for a major confrontation with the farm industry which could knock the bloom off any March 5 celebrations of its general election triumph three years ago.

A few weeks ago, farm leaders met Mr. Hawke in Canberra. Afterwards, Mr. Ian McLachlan, president of the National Farmers Federation (NFF) described Australian farming's predicament as "diabolical", or "Future Shock times two."

As a result of the meeting, the government promised an inquiry into Australia's anti-dumping laws, which prop up the price of fertiliser, and another into the fertiliser industry itself. The Department of Primary Industry was also ordered to prepare a position paper, outlining the extent of farming's crisis.

But unless the government take bolder actions than these it may find itself encircled by a bushfire of revolt by angry farmers, some of whom are threatening a strike against the banks, plus a blockade of farm exports.

Although the government does not need to call an election until late 1987, farm militancy could mushroom into the sort of controversy the government is strenuously seeking to avoid as to hasten recovery from the string of political gaffes which debilitated it last year.

Factors plaguing the rural sector include depressed world prices, rampant protectionism, rising domestic costs, and record high interest rates.

Mr. McLachlan says that many of Australia's 179,000 farmers are "going broke," and that average farm income has slumped to below A$6,500 ($3,459). In the past three or four months, farm values have slipped fast, in some cases by 40 or 50 per cent.

The centre of rural unrest is Canowindra, five hours' drive from Sydney, where 600 farmers and small businessmen recently demanded a moratorium on all farm and small business debt.

Mr. Peter Ryan, chairman of the Canowindra Rural Reform Committee, said the time had come for "strong — maybe militant — action," warning: "If the government will not compensate agriculture for propping up the Australian dollar, then we can halt exports, and Australia and the dollar will go down the tube together."

It seems unlikely to come to that. But the Canowindra farmers, backed by action committees across the country, are contemplating a range of protests which could test the government sorely.

On February 14, the farmers plan to blockade Canberra. They are also planning a "full-scale march on the banking system throughout Australia," and have called for the suspension of payment of bank interest.

"Quite a few farmers already have bank foreclosure notices in their hands," Mr. Ryan said. "A lot of farmers have borrowings of A$100,000 to A$200,000 while a few around here range to A$500,000." Canowindra is a mixed-farm area.

"Most farmers are paying interest rates of 20 to 23 per cent. They cannot keep up. Some are borrowing simply to pay food bills.

"We are asking the banks to act as a lobby group. They must tell the government that farm interest rates have got to be equalised with our competitors abroad, who are probably only paying 8 per cent."

Recent forecasts from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics (BAE) in Canberra made grim reading. The BAE said that the real net value of farm production — a key indicator — was expected to fall by 26 per cent in 1985-86, following a decline of 19 per cent last year. In current prices, gross farm product this year was expected to fall 5 per cent to A$8.3 billion.

Two sectors experiencing the greatest hardship are wheat and sugar. Last month, Australia's Ministers for Primary Industry and Trade, Mr. John Kerin and Mr. John Dawkins, voiced bitter criticism of the U.S. Farm Act signed by President Ronald Reagan last December.

"Given the importance of the international agricultural market to Australia," they said, "we view with dismay policies adopted by a major agricultural trader which we believe will result in new pressures contributing further to the breakdown of an already unstable world market, heavily under threat from predatory trading practices."

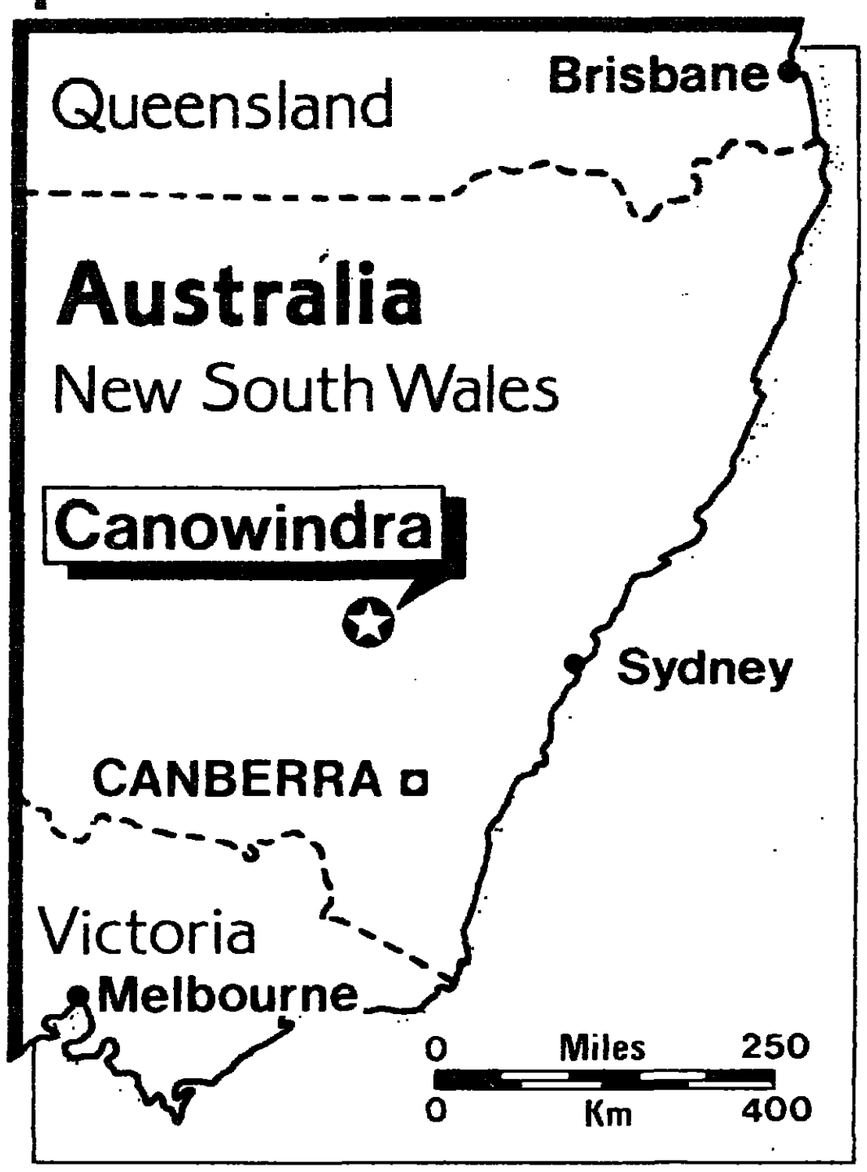
They said that of special concern to Australia was the mandatory requirement in the U.S. legislation for the use of U.S.$2 billion in commodities over three years for the so-called export enhancement programme and the mandatory U.S.$325 million a year in funds or commodities to combat competitor subsidies and potential market access problems for sugar, beef, and casein.

"The answer to unfair trade does not lie in a trade war," they declared. "Everyone ends up a loser. The answer lies in recognising and coming to terms with market realities, and in establishing effective disciplines on agricultural trade."

To date, Mr. Hawke's government has devoted most of its energies to succouring its prices and incomes accord with the Australian Council of Trade Unions, which has yielded positive results.

Mr. Kerin told the farmers last year that the best thing Labour could do for the farmers was get the economy right.

He said the government would continue to bear down on inflation and seek to stimulate growth, as well as holding down the budget deficit. "It is for this reason I cannot meet the demands of specific primary industry groups for hundreds of millions of dollars."



Since then, the farmers' plight has worsened, and militancy has spread like wildfire through the bush. One way or another, the Hawke government seems set for a rough rural ride that could undo much of the repair to its ego and self-confidence — Financial Times news feature.

Randa Habib's Corner

Fortune tellers

WHEN I was twenty one a fortune teller told me I will never reach the age of forty. I was shocked for sometime but later told myself "this is rubbish" and forgot all about it.

Last year I was dragged by a friend to a fortune teller in Jebel Al Hussein, he looked at me and said: "I am going to tell you something, and I hope you will not get too sad." "Go ahead," I answered, already alarmed. "You will die before the age of forty. I would say at the age of thirty nine," he told me.

From that day I swore never to see a fortune teller again. But it was too late and the damage was done. I would be a liar if I tell you that the premonitions of the fortune teller did not affect me. My first reaction was in fact to read all kind of books about palmistry and try to find something that will prove fortune tellers were wrong. But that was not better either. My real cure came through a friend who recently told me about his personal experience in this field.

One day he consulted a fortune teller who foretold him that he would die at the age of twenty six. When he reached that age he nearly confined himself at home the whole year, waiting with anxiety for that fatal moment to arrive.

One can easily imagine that it was hell for him because somehow he took that premonition very seriously because his fortune teller was one of the world experts in palmistry.

This friend is today over thirty, happy and healthy. The nightmare was over.

I tell all this because I feel more and more the interest of people around me in the "sciences of the unknown". If you happen to go one day what I went through, try to remember the story of my friend. It will help you.

German newspapers go scalp-hunting in search of bigger sales

NEWSPAPERMEN are moving from one leading publisher to another on a scale that a year ago would not have been thought possible.

Many of the changes go through ideological barriers. Both management and editorial people on both newspapers and magazines are negotiating the job market in unprecedented numbers.

This is all happening because of a change in attitudes: hard-working, all round journalists interested in boosting circulation are in demand — professionals without a political barrow to push.

The stage centre is commanded by three people widely regarded as belonging to journalism's jet set: Gunther Prinz, Peter Boenisch and Peter Koch.

Gunther Prinz is the Axel Springer board member responsible for the company's entire newspaper division. He is a former editor of *Bild-Zeitung* who planned the tabloid colour weekly *Bild der Frau*, which was an instant success.

His predecessor as editor of *Bild-Zeitung*, Peter Boenisch, went on to become chief spokesman for the Federal government in Bonn.

Cosidered a media expert and a political *bon vivant*, Boenisch is now editorial director of *Bunte*, the illustrated weekly published in Munich by the Burda Group.

Peter Koch was editor of *Stern* magazine, published by Gruner and Jahr in Hamburg, until he mishandled the fake Hitler Diaries.

He went on to write a biography of Konrad Adenauer published by Rowohlt and has now found a well-paid job with the Springer Group he was given to lambasting from his desk at *Stern*.

These three men have emerged as headhunters in a quest for talented journalists they see as giving the print media in Germany a professional cachet above and beyond political blinkers.

Boenisch is on the lookout for talent at Springer, where he worked for so many years. But it really is all in the family because his employer, Burda, holds a 24.9 per cent stake in the Springer Group.

The most sensational and revealing headhunting is at *Stern*, where until recently an anti-Springer attitude was almost a mark of quality.

Insiders now refer to the Prinz-Koch brigade as a power group who are causing a furore with their offers of lucrative contracts to *Stern* staff writers.

The latest well-known journalist recruited by Koch is Uwe Zimmer, head of the foreign news desk at *Stern*. Others seem sure to follow despite the TV supplement *Stern* has launched to regain lost circulation.

Zimmer is a talented analyst who skilfully rode the anti-missile, anti-Reagan wave in his years as the *Stern* correspondent in Washington.

But he has lately been feeling unhappy back in Hamburg, where politics and ideological criticism were no longer in demand.

"If the trend toward depoliticisation and de-ideologisation continues," he mused privately a few months ago, "it won't be long before switching from *Stern* to Springer will be no trouble."

Sooner or later: in his case sooner. He is now under contract to Springer as deputy editor-in-chief.

The starting shot in the current head-hunting campaign can be said to have been fired by Henri Nannen, longstanding *Stern* editor and publisher.

In an off-the-cuff TV programme made and screened when Axel Springer died last September Nannen was surprisingly generous in saying that a great man and distinguished personality Springer had been — despite their many differences.

As editor of *Stern*, Nannen had consistently banned everything to do with Springer, which is pretty well what *Stern* editor Rolf Winter did in his Springer obituary.

So Nannen's fine words on the occasion of Springer's death were not just what he may have felt was expected of him. They were also a sign that his death would mark the beginning of changes in the German media market.

Changes were most likely in the ideological divide that has long split the German press, with attendant ill-will.

At the end of an era for the Springer Group, as board chairman Peter Tamm put it on 9 January 1986, an inevitable period of change, of tectonic movement in the media geology of the Federal Republic of Germany, has set in.

It coincides with the onset of the new media — a further sign that de-ideologisation is well under way in German journalism.

The mere death of Axel Springer cannot be the reason why it is suddenly no longer objectionable for a well-paid *Stern* man to switch allegiance to what used to be the root of all journalistic evil for self-respecting left-wingers.

Trends such as this tend to be in the air, like a ripe fruit that is ready to fall. At Springer too there is an unmistakable trend toward the hard-nosed journalistic professionalism that has always been *de regueur* at some Springer papers.

Everyone is welcome to jump on the bandwaggon who is up to the standards required by the Prinz-Koch brigade.

The long-term repercussions of this trend toward "efficient journalism" and its effect on the fourth estate, the Press, and the public esteem in which it is held in Germany will be more far-reaching than can possibly be suggested.

As in the English-speaking world journalists will be judged by their ability to boost sales of their newspapers and magazines as a common-or-garden consumer product.

There have been clear signs for some time at both ends of the political spectrum that old hands were feeling a little tired of ideology and felt in need of being freed from the fetters of an accepted ideological foe so as to be able to simply make a newspaper or a magazine.

A ready solution would be to quietly join the ranks of hard-sellers, with the emphasis on marketing and sales strategy. A soft appeal may be more in demand at present, but that is a minor detail.

The electronic media are all going flat-out to offer a soft appeal, with the emphasis on entertainment, but that in no way rules out the hard-sell approach.

Prinz, Koch and associates are now planning to launch a new magazine along *Bild-Zeitung* lines. It will be all about cars, and who can doubt that it too will be an instant success, selling two to three million copies?

Germany's young upwardly-mobile professionals are very much in demand and the yuppy market looks like setting the trend for some time.

Growing numbers of German yuppies correspond to the growing number of floating voters increasingly less bound by conventional party-political preferences and predisposed to prefer sheer efficiency.

So the new journalist, a clearly-emerging type in the German mass media market, reflects fundamental social changes.

Old ties are giving way to a casuistic consumer behaviour of which subtle diversion or amusement is the only conceivable common denominator — Rheinischer Merkur, Bonn.

King hopes for crystallisation of firm joint Jordanian-Palestinian stand

(Continued from page 1)

discussions, I am confident that the misunderstanding on the details of the solution to the conflict could be ironed out easily," Mr. Masri said in a shaky voice with a determined tone.

Calling on the King to resume his efforts with the PLO regardless of the reasons which brought about the termination of political coordination, he said: "I hope the King sees my pledge as feasible and as based on the Feb. 11 agreement."

Akram Zu'aitar said the termination of political coordination between Jordan and the PLO leadership will by no means mean a split of ties between the Jordanian and the Palestinian peoples.

"The joint Jordanian-Palestinian efforts for reaching a just and durable solution to the Palestine problem shall continue on the basis of mutual trust, frankness and the national interests of both peoples," Mr. Zu'aitar added.

He called on all Palestinians to promise the King that they shall clinge to their unity with their Jordanian brothers. "All Palestinians are urged to stick to the unity of the march for liberation," he said.

Several senators criticised the PLO and urged it to continue its joint efforts with Jordan.

"I do hope that the PLO will respond to the various political objectives the King has achieved in his search for peace," said Walid Salah.

Newly appointed Sen. Barjas Al Hadid said: "Despite all the positive progress in the King's search for a settlement to the Palestine problem, the PLO leadership has failed to live up to its responsibility and to meet the needs of the Palestine cause." "The PLO leadership should focus on regaining the lost land and not on how to achieve their personal gains and interests," Mr. Hadid said, blaming the organisation for failing to tackle the Palestine cause in a wise and subjective manner.

Field Marshal Habis Al Majali launched a harsh attack on the PLO leadership, which "failed to seize the golden opportunity for a peaceful solution to the Palestine problem and hid behind banners and announced stands."

Senators also expressed hope that the PLO as well as the Arab countries will benefit from the King's speech and stands. The King's address will serve as a document to inspire all parties involved in the conflict as well as the Arab states to coordinate and unite their efforts, instead of projecting slogans and haphazard opinions on how to solve the problem, Mr. Zu'aitar and Mr. Rashid Ureiqat said.

The majority of senators who spoke during the session appealed to the King to proceed with his efforts to find a just and durable solution to the Palestinian plight, and to save the people from Israeli occupation.

Former Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat drifted away from the core of Sunday's discussion by lashing out at the Jordanian media which had aired the views of Abdullah Lahlouh, mayor of the West Bank city of Jenin, and Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli defence minister, on the King's speech. Mr. Lahlouh is known to be an Israeli puppet, Mr. Obeidat said. "What aggravated the situation was that Mr. Lahlouh's views were presented alongwith the comments of two loyal Palestinian mayors," Zafer Al Masri of Nablus and former Gaza Mayor Rashad Al Shawaa, Mr. Obeidat said.

"It appeared as though the media had mixed its cards in a crucial period. This is an insult against Jordan and King Hussein and the King's historic speech which provided explicit meaning. I wonder at such a conduct by the media. This is a mistake to which we should have paid more attention, especially in such a historic turn point," he said.

Mr. Obeidat said he was shocked to note that the Jordanian media allowed the citizens to hear Rabin saying that in 1983 he himself told the Palestinians all what the King said on Wednesday.

"These are falsified intrigues on Jordan, the King and the nation's course of action," the former premier said and warned that "we should not fall into the Israeli media's intrigues in the ecstacy of zeal to support the King's speech."

Following are major excerpts from senators' speeches on Sunday:

Mr. Ureiqat expressed regret to see the failure of the King's efforts for achieving a just and durable solution to the Palestine problem. He referred to the King's call for an international conference to solve the issue with the participation of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council as well as all other parties involved in the conflict.

Mr. Ureiqat said the stalemate in the peace process was due to "improper planning and because the Arabs have always attempted to solve the cause in an irrational manner." He quoted the King's earlier warning to all Arab nations and those involved in the conflict that irrational attempts with no proper planning and coordination will never achieve anthing. "The King was right in saying so. The current situation is a manifestation of his earlier warnings," Mr. Ureiqat said.

"When shall we see an end to the agony of our Arab brethren in the occupied Arab territories,"? he asked.

He called on all Palestinians to denounce differences and to summon their strength to solve the problem.

Deputy Speaker Masri said the Feb. 11 accord offered a solution to the Palestine problem through stressing the concept of land in exchange for peace. "Once we liberate the lands then our right to self-determination will be achieved through a confederation with Jordan," Mr. Masri said.

He also referred to the situation prevailing in the occupied territories and said: "We are outsiders in our own land. The language is no more Arab and the names of our Arab villages have been changed. We are not allowed to hear prayers from mosques because Israelis say that the voice of the sheikh disturbs them.

"I have come here today to tell you that Jordan constitutes the most important national and regional dimensions of the Palestine problem. We also are aware that cooperation and coordination between Jordan and the PLO stem out from the grave situation prevailing in the occupied lands."

Mr. Ahmad Al Tarawneh praised King Hussein's comprehensive and historic speech, which he said, outlined all responsibilities which should be shared by the Arabs in order to solve the Palestinian problem.

Jordan, Mr. Tarawneh said, shall never be "a substitute for the Palestinians" and stressed that the Palestine issue is the cause of all Arabs.

He concluded his speech by saying that he fully endorsed and supported all the components of King Hussein's speech.

Dr. Hindawi and Mr. Radi Al Abdullah, who wrote their speech jointly, said the "Hashemite leadership is an example for the nation's commitments, aspirations and hopes."

They also discussed the unity between the West and East Banks as endorsed by the Jordanian Parliament in 1950 and its basic components. They added that these components form the basis of the King's stride and keenness for restoring all occupied Arab lands and for helping the Palestinians face their problems by supporting them and strengthening their steadfastness.

On Saturday, the Lower House of Parliament held an urgent session in which it pledged total support for King Hussein's policies.

The House listened to a number of speeches made by deputies and later visited the King at the Royal Court, where House Speaker Akef Al Fayez read their statement to the King.

Deputy Moufid Al Mubasalat reiterated commitment to "the sacred unity" and that all parties should listen and give priority to the opinion and decision of the people in the occupied territories.

Deputy Ziad Younis from Tulkarem appealed to the King to proceed with political efforts to restore the occupied Arab territories.

Deputy Yousef Al Adem from Ma'an took a totally different direction by saying that there was no use of pursuing efforts to find a peaceful settlement and the only option was "to mobilise the nation" for a military confrontation. He severely attacked the U.S. and said: "It should have been clear by now to all of those who still hope that the U.S. could play a neutral role that Washington has publicly presented itself to be the most vicious side in its support for Israel," he said.

Ancient palace unearthed in Alexander The Great's capital

By Kerin Hope
The Associated Press

PELLA, Greece — They are only foundations, but the rows of carefully trimmed stoe blocks and column bases trace the outline of a vast ancient palace that might have been the birthplace of Alexander the Great.

Constructed in the 4th century B.C. on a hilltop overlooking the sea, the complex of colonnaded buildings and courtyards big enough to hold an army once sprawled over more than 15 acres.

"Nothing like it has ever been uncovered in Greece before. For sheer size it's amazing. It's one of the largest ancient architectural complexes ever found anywhere," Mairi Siganidou, a Greek archaeologist who began excavating the site in 1981, said in an interview wiht the Associated Press.

The discovery also adds weight to theories that the ancient Macedonian aristocracy, grown rich from battle spoils, and a profitable export trade in timber and locally mined gold, enjoyed a sophisticated lifestyle in luxurious surroundings.

Pella, 38 kilometres from the northern Greek city of Salonica, was once the capital of the powerful Macedonian kingdom, which Alexander built into an empire stretching to Egypt and India.

"We know Alexander was born in Pella, in 356 B.C. but it's not clear whether the palace was built by his father, Philip II, or by Cassander who ruled Macedonia after murdering Alexander's heirs," Mrs. Siganidou, the state antiquity service's chief archaeologist for Western Macedonia, said.

She believes it is "highly unlikely" that the palace was built by Alexander the Great, who led his armies out of Greece in 334 B.C. at the age of 22 and died at Babylon 11 years later.

"Architecturally it belongs somewhere between 370 and 300 B.C. but the lack of finds means we may never know for sure," she said.

A traveller approaching the palace at Pella would have arrived at a huge gateway, 15 metres wide, flanked by a long verandah supported by giant pillars gleaming with white marble stucco.

"On the interior were two courtyards enclosing an area the size of a football field. Surrounding them were two-story buildings of fine masonry, possibly roofed with marble tiles," she said.

The foundations of two out of four buildings located so far have been completely exposed, covering an area of more than 4 acres. One was a mansion with rooms built around a central courtyard, perhaps the throne-room complex.

"There are no floor levels with finds to indicate a precise date, because we're digging below them. But we can imagine beautiful floor mosaics like those found in later Pella mansions," she said.

No civic buildings have been found during almost 30 years of digging at Pella, suggesting that the palace also have housed the kingdom's military and civil administration. Historians portray the Macedonians as coarse, hard-drinking soldiers like Philip II, a brilliant general and notorious womanizer, who was assassinated in 336 B.C. at this daughter's wedding.

"But they certainly weren't barbarians. Their pottery, their architecture, the jewellery and frescoes from their tombs show immense refinement," Mrs. Siganidou said.

Finds displayed in Salonica museum from a tomb believed to be Philip's included a solid gold casket, elegant carved ivory miniatures, a delicate wreath of oak-leaves in gold leaf and a set of finely worked silver jugs and cups.

Domingo features Goya in Washington premiere

By Adela Gooch
Reuter

WASHINGTON — "Goya," a new opera based on the life of the Spanish painter, will have its world premiere in Washington next autumn — starring a Spaniard, directed by a Spaniard, but sung in English.

"I prefer to write in English," composer-librettist Gian Carlo Menotti, whose first language is Italian, said at a news conference announcing that the new work would open at Washington's Kennedy Centre in November.

The opera was partially the brainchild of Spanish tenor Placido Domingo, who will star in its premiere.

"I asked Gian Carlo why don't you write an opera about the great painter,' because Goya has always had my admiration as an artist but also as a great Spanish patriot," Domingo said in a telephone-hookup interview from Rome relayed for reporters in Washington.

Spanish conductor Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos also enthused about the project, saying, "before I was asked, I said 'yes.' The subject is so beautiful. I really don't know why there has not been an opera before about it."

Goya — Francisco Jose Goya Y Lucientes — was born in 1746 and died in 1828.

Describing the opera as "a poetic impression" of the artist's life, Menotti said, "what I'm trying to express in my opera is the dualism in the man."

The work relies on a mingling of fact and romantic fantasy in an attempt to explore what Menotti decribed as "the fundamental question of art," which he said involves the relationship between an artist's work and his life.

"Goya is not an easy subject because he was not what he was in his paintings: an innovator, a very romantic, very modern man, full of violence, of passion," Menotti said.

Art historians say the painter's social aspirations were often in conflict with his artistry. For instance, Goya the snob could not resist an invitation to paint King Carlos IV and his family, but Goya the artist could not resist depicting them as jibbering idiots.

This impertinence did his career no harm, though. As one Goya expert put it recently, "they (the royal family) were so stupid they were pleased with the portrait."

Some of Goya's most famous later works, such as "Los Fusilamientos del Tres de Mayo," depicted the struggles of Spanish patriots to oust Napoleon's forces from the peninsula. But at the same time he was painting portraits of the French Generals who were killing his countrymen.

For the focal point of the opera, however, Menotti chose Goya's love affair with the Duchess of Alba, Spain's highest ranking noblewoman who became the painter's muse and is thought by some to have been the model for his famous pair of "Maja" portraits, one of them nude.

Juventus extends league lead with win over Bari

ROME (R) — Italian international defender Antonio Cabrini kept European Cup holders Juventus on course for their 22nd league title Sunday when he opened the scoring in his team's 3-0 win at struggling Bari.

With their nearest rivals Roma being held 1-1 by Fiorentina — thanks to an own goal by Polish international and former Juventus striker Zbigniew Boniek — Juventus stretched their lead at the top to four points.

Juventus, without suspended midfielders Massimo Bonini and Lionello Manfredonia, had not won an away match for four months before Sunday.

Bari, whose hopes of avoiding relegation only one season after winning promotion look bleak, put up a brave fight and were unlucky not to score early on through two shots from English centre-forward Paul Rideout.

Juventus went 1-0 up in the 27th minute when Cabrini, a veteran of more than 230 appearances for the team, scored with a free kick and took complete control in the second half.

Midfielder Gabriele Pin scored with a fine solo effort in the 65th minute and winger Massimo Briaschi claimed the third goal five minutes later.

Roma's hopes of a seventh successive win were dashed in the 57th minute at Florence when a scramble in front of their own net ended with an own goal by Boniek.

Striker Roberto Pruzzo, who hit five goals last Sunday, had put Roma ahead in the 22nd minute to keep his position as the league's leading scorer with 13 goals.

West German international Karl-Heinz Rummenigge increased his tally to 12 Sunday with two of Internazionale's goals in their 3-0 defeat of bottom-of-the-table Lecce.

Italy midfielder Marco Tardelli opened the scoring in the 55th minute and Rummenigge followed with two late goals. The result lifted Internazionale to fifth.

Argentine Diego Maradona also scored twice for Napoli against league champions Verona. Napoli were 2-0 down early in the second half, but a 54th-minute penalty and an 80th-minute header by Maradona earned them a draw.

Verona were reduced to 10 men for the last eight minutes after midfielder Vinicio Verza was sent off.

A depleted Milan, missing England striker Mark Hateley, who had his tonsils removed two days ago, and injured Italian international Paolo Rossi, were beaten 2-0 by Torino. Winger Antonio Comi scored both goals.

United's Hughes will play for Barcelona

LONDON (AP) — Mark Hughes, Manchester United's Welsh international striker, will sign for Spanish soccer champion Barcelona at the end of the current English season, a British press report said Sunday.

The tabloid Sunday Mirror said Barcelona's English manager, Terry Venables, already has tied up a $2.8 million transfer deal with the Manchester side and that Hughes' name is on a contract to move to the Spanish giant in May.

The Mirror said the contract was for eight years and Hughes would receive more than $140,000 as a signing on fee.

Graf is no match for Evert Lloyd

BOCA RATON, Florida (R) — Top-seeded Chris Evert Lloyd beat 16-year-old Steffi Graf of West Germany 6-4, 6-2 in a baseline duel Saturday to win the women's singles title in the $1.8 million International Players Championships.

Lloyd collected $112,500 for beating the second-seeded Graf, whom she has now defeated six straight times without losing a set. Graf received $56,250.

Graf got off to a fast start, pounding in a number of winners with her strong forehand to take a 3-1 lead in the opening set. But Lloyd steadied to run off five of the last six games for the set and then led throughout the second set.

"Chris always knows what to do when it gets close," said Graf, one of the most promising young players on the women's circuit, who reached the semifinals of last year's U.S. Open. "I don't know what to do against her."

Lloyd, who has now captured 144 tournaments, won 14 straight sets during the two-week-long tournament while winning seven matches. She has now won 12 consecutive matches, without a defeat, so far this year.

"Steffi played very well," said Lloyd who did not have to contend with either Martina Navratilova or Hana Mandlikova, the world's third ranking player, since both bypassed the Grand Slam-type event. "She started out good with a forehand that put me off guard," said Lloyd, who committed 11 errors while losing three straight games after breaking Graf's service at 15 in the opening game.

"I'm happy with the way I pulled out the first set," Lloyd said. "I played big points at 4-all and a good game to win the set."

Graf was within a point of 4-1 in the set, but she netted a forehand and then began to err more in the baseline rallies that characterised the match.

After Lloyd pulled to 4-4, Graf went ahead 30-love. But she then committed four straight unforced errors to lose service, after which Lloyd held for the set.

Graf held service to open the second set, but Lloyd won the next five games with the loss of only nine points.

"I started to play better in the second set. I kept playing her backhand," Lloyd said.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Jordan, Syria to stage swimming meets

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Syria have agreed to set up friendly meets in swimming for amateurs (males and females) in the two countries. Sources at the General Sport Federation in Syria said that the first meet will take place in Damascus on March 14th.

Soviet triple-jumper leaps 17.54 metres

MADRID (R) — Maris Bruzhiks of the Soviet Union set a world indoor best mark for the triple jump at the European Indoor Athletics Championships Sunday with a leap of 17.54 metres. The previous best was 17.50 metres set by Charlie Simpkins of the United States in Los Angeles on January 17.

Audain sets new 10,000 metre record

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP) — Brisbane Commonwealth Games gold-medallist Anne Audain broke the Commonwealth record for 10,000 metres Sunday in a qualifying run for this year's Games. Audain, who won the 3,000 metres at Brisbane in 1982, set a new mark of 32 minuts, 17 minutes, 1 second. The previous record was head by Lisa Martin of Australia.

Reading trainer saves player's life

LONDON (R) — Reading soccer trainer Glenn Hunter turned life-saver Saturday after his side's winger Andy Rogers stopped breathing during the Third Division English League club's match at Swansea. Roges stopped breathing for 90 seconds after banging his head on the rock-hard surface, suffering a fit and swallowing his tongue. Hunter forced open Rogers' jaw and put a tube down the unconscious player's throat to start him breathing again. The referee then took the teams off the field as the 29-year-old was helped to his feet and taken to hospital.

Rocheteau nets two penalties, but PSG and Lens draw 2-2

PARIS (R) — World Cup striker Dominique Rocheteau scored from two penalties, but missed a third as Paris Saint-Germain were held 2-2 by Lens in the French First Division Saturday night.

Lens took a second minute lead through Uruguayan international striker Venancio Ramos, who netted after a solo run from the middle of the pitch.

Rocheteau pulled Paris Saint-Germain level with his first penalty in the 40th minute but Ramos restored the Lens lead nine minutes after the interval — also from the penalty spot.

Rocheteau slotted in his second penalty in the 61st minute but his third shot from the spot 10 minutes later was saved by Lens goalkeeper Christophe Gardie, ensuring a deserved draw for the visitors.

Rocheteau, in the French squad for next Wednesday's World Cup warm-up match against Northern Ireland, is the First Division's leading marksman with 18 goals, one more than Jules Bocande who scored the only Metz goal in a 3-1 defeat at Bordeaux.

Bernard Lacombe gave Bordeaux a fifth minute lead, but Bocande put Metz back on terms in the 16th minute. Alain Giresse scored from a free-kick in the 34th minute and Bernard Gimenez, replacement for the injured Jean Tigana, added a third in the 41st to seal victory for Bordeaux.

The win took defending champions Bordeaux into equal second place with Nantes, who were held to a goalless draw at Nice. But both trail Paris Saint-Germain, who have played one more game, by eight points.

Londonderry won't allow Irish politics to ruin its soccer team

By Robert Millward
AP Sports Writer

LONDONDERRY, Northern Ireland — Derry City is a unique soccer club. Every time the team plays away from home, the players have to leave the country.

And whenever they play at their 12,000-capacity Brandywell Stadium in Londonderry, the opposing team has to bring passports.

Derry City, a Roman Catholic team in this Protestant-dominated British province, is affiliated with the soccer league of the neighbouring Irish Republic because no Protestant teams in the north will risk visiting its ground.

The club is a victim of the sectarian feuding in Northern Ireland between Protestant militants who resist any Irish Republic involvement in the province and the mainly Roman Catholic Irish Republican Army, which is fighting to unite the province with the south.

The violence, which has claimed the lives of nearly 2,500 civilians and members of the security forces since 1969, caught up with Derry City in 1971. A bus that had carried the mainly Protestant players of visiting Ballymena was hijacked and burned by pro-Catholic guerrillas.

As a result of the strife, the club was forced out of Northern Ireland's own league the following year and spent the next 13 years in a soccer wilderness.

But this year, Derry City, most of whose fans are Catholic, ended its long soccer exile by joining the League of Ireland to the south.

The result has been a rebirth of soccer in Londonderry. The club has attracted by far the biggest attendances in the whole of Ireland — north or south.

After the bus-burning incident, teams with Protestant support refused to play at Brandywell. Derry City played its home games at neighbouring Coleraine, but that proved financially disastrous because not even its own fans were prepared to travel to another venue.

Club officials decided they had no other course than to withdraw from the league and end 43 unbroken years' membership of the Irish League.

For each of the next 13 years, Derry City officials applied to rejoin, but were turned down because of the club's politically sensitive position in the heart of the Catholic bogside region of Londonderry.

"It was a depressing time in the town when there was no senior soccer to watch. The club was in the wilderness," said Frank Curran, who, as soccer writer for the Derry Journal, had watched Derry City play for the past 40 years.

"People had to rely on televised soccer and became more interested in English clubs such as Manchester United."

Explaining its unique situation, the Derry City club appealed to the world's governing body, FIFA (International Federation of Association Football), to allow a move to the expanding League of Ireland.

FIFA agreed to the move but only if the Irish League did not object.

No objections were raised and the door was open for Derry City to become the first Northern Irish team to join the southern League of Ireland.

More than 10,000 fans turned out for its opening game against Home Farm, a Dublin side, and the club's average home gate of 9,000 is more than most English Second Division teams can boast.

"On one Sunday, the gate at Brandywell was bigger than the all five Irish League games put together on the previous day," said Curran.

With so many fans pouring through the turnstiles, the club has been able to spend money on big-name players such as former England international striker Denis Tueart. It also has imported Brazilian Nelson Da Silva and Jose Makendi of Zaire, who both are on loan from the Belgian side, Beerschot.

One of the most intriguing games it has played was in the previous round of the Football Association of Ireland cup against the Garda Siochana, the Irish Republic's police team.

Curran explained how the Garda team was escorted by its Northern Ireland counterpart, the Royal Ulster Constabulary, as protection against extremists in the north.

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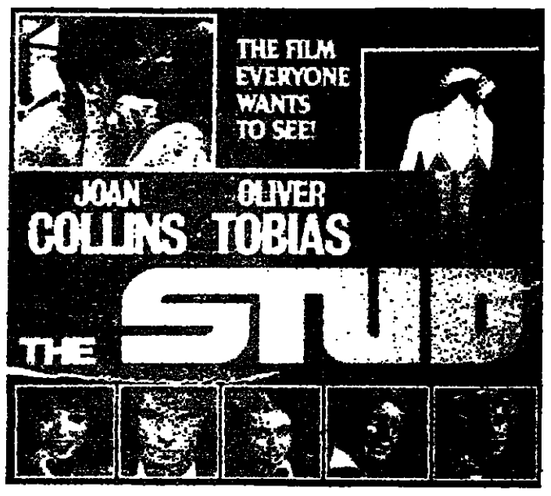
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HIGH ROAD TO CHINA
(Colour)
Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30-



★ Cine- Theatre ★
Philadelphia
Tel: 634144 - 634149
PLACES IN THE HEART
(Colour)
Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:15

Cinema **RAGHADAN**
Tel: 622198
THE LOST EMPIRE
(Colour)
Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00

Cinema **OPERA**
Abdali, behind Alia cinema
Tel: 675573
(Colour)
Performances - 3:30, 6:00, 8:30-

Oil price slide aggravates Tunisia's economic ordeal

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia's embattled economy is suffering a further blow with the plunge in oil prices, Western economic analysts say.

Oil is the North African country's most important export, yet the precious foreign currency it earns is expected to dry up in about five years.

The government forecasts that the country will become a net energy importer in the early 1990s if there are no big new oil finds.

Foreign companies searching for oil, particularly those carrying out costly offshore drilling, have been forced to reassess profit margins with each new price drop over the past few hectic weeks, oil industry sources say.

There are 15 U.S. and other foreign oil companies active in Tunisia, and they stand to lose 10 million dinars (about $13 million) with each cut of $1 in the oil price, the government says.

The country has been particularly hard hit by the oil price slump because Tunisia's oil reserves are modest — they officially stand at 45 million tonnes — and because of the industry's key position in the economy, analysts say.

Only about 10 new test wells are due to be drilled this year, the sources say, further reducing the chances of finding profitable new oilfields.

Tunisia produced 5.3 million tonnes of crude last year, netting about $800 million in hard currency. This year, the government says production is due to drop to five million tonnes.

If oil prices stabilise around $15 a barrel, the country will lose about $110 million in foreign currency revenue, Economy Minister Rashid Sfar estimates.

To help compensate for the loss, Mr. Sfar says exports must be boosted in other areas. Tourism is Tunisia's second-biggest foreign currency earner, followed by textiles and shoes and phosphates.

Throughout the boom oil years of the 1970s, Tunisia used its limited petroleum assets to help produce strong economic growth of around seven per cent on average a year.

In the 1980s, it has had to consider what to do as the oil runs out and how to encourage energy conservation.

Oil was first discovered in 1964 at Al Borma, southern Tunisia, and this remains by far the biggest oil and gas field.

The country also imports oil and petroleum products because its only oil refinery at Bizerte, in the north, accounts for just half the country's annual needs.

Cuts in investment appear inevitable with the drop in oil prices, with projects requiring imports and placing demands on foreign currency reserves being the most likely targets.

Local press reports have speculated that a revised budget will be presented next month at the latest.

The 1986 budget already planned for austerity, and was presented after a prolonged and bitter wage dispute with the country's biggest trade union, the 350,000-strong General Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT). Among the UGTT's demands was an end to a wage freeze imposed in 1983.

The UGTT leadership has been forced out of its headquarters and regional offices by "rebel" trade unionists strongly supported by the government, with the help of police, according to the UGTT.

The government says it is determined not to take the "easy option" and resort to increased foreign borrowing to plug the gap caused by the latest oil price slump.

Total foreign debt stood at about $4.5 billion at the end of last year, or just under 50 per cent of gross domestic product.

S. Arabia aims to avoid new energy crisis

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia, stung by critics who blame it for a world oil market collapse, says it will work to avoid a new energy crisis and to ensure oil prices return to acceptable levels.

"The kingdom is making efforts to correct the situation to ensure the return of prices to just and acceptable levels," an oil ministry statement said.

"In order to realise this, the kingdom joins hands with any loyal party that works to protect the economies of our people from serious damage and the international community from another energy crisis in the near future," the statement added.

Oil analysts said the statement, issued Saturday night, may be a sign that Saudi Arabia considers the price fall, almost halving the price of some crudes this year to below 15 a barrel, has gone far enough.

It also appears to be a rebuff to hard-line members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), such as Iran, which Saturday called for a halt in OPEC oil exports to force prices higher.

The hard-liners, which also include Algeria and Libya, have blamed Saudi Arabia for precipitating the collapse by expanding production.

The three want OPEC to reverse a decision it took in December to abandon a production ceiling in favour of an undetermined "fair share of the world oil market."

The OPEC decision followed a move by Saudi Arabia, the world's largest exporter, to abandon official OPEC prices to boost oil production which fell last summer to a 20-year-low of two million barrels per day (b/d).

Since then, oil industry sources say Saudi output has been close to or above its 4.35 million b/d OPEC quota, an output increase which has added to a glut in world supplies.

Libyan leader, Colonel Muammar Qadhafi was quoted Sunday in a pro-Libyan weekly published in Beirut as blaming the latest upsurge in the Iran-Iraq war on Saudi oil policy.

"I warn the Gulf states that this war will expand... if all do not cut production to the quotas permitted," he said.

Iran, whose latest offensive has taken it close to Kuwait's borders, has also cited high Saudi and Kuwaiti output for the crash.

The Saudi statement said the kingdom was the last to abandon official prices, but was forced by financial pressures to follow the price-cutting tactics of fellow OPEC members.

"We had agreed to reduce oil production to two million b/d from 10 million b/d, forcing economic development nearly to stop in our country," it said.

"What has happened was... out of the hands of any government that faced depletion in its financial resources, causing unbearable and unacceptable deficits in its budget," the statement added.

It continued: "The kingdom will not abandon the policy it has taken since the 1970s, which rejects wide fluctuations in oil prices either up or down..."

The ministry blamed previous hikes in oil prices for the drop in consumption which was the basis for OPEC's plight.

The price of oil jumped sharply in the 1970s in two energy crises. The first followed the 1973 Arab oil embargo of the West for its support of Israel and the second in 1979 followed the overthrow of the Shah in Iran.

In 1979 and 1980, Saudi Arabia expanded production to record levels of over 10 million barrels a day to stop oil prices from shooting up over $40 a barrel.

The ministry reiterated OPEC could not protect oil prices alone and needed the cooperation of non-OPEC producers.

Mexico to set oil prices daily

Meanwhile, Mexico will set its export oil prices daily instead of at the end of each month, beginning March 1, the government news agency Notimex reported.

The agency Saturday also quoted Petroleos Mexicanos S.A. as saying the Mexican delegation to a meeting of the British Petroleum Institute said Mexico would maintain its export target at 1.5 million b/d of crude.

The delegation also said Mexico would not try to increase exports to compensate for reduced prices.

The mid-February cut put prices for Mexican oil at an average of $15.07 a barrel.

The state-owned oil monopoly previously had set prices at the end of each month, retroactive to the beginning of the month, but slashed them by $4.68 a barrel Feb. 14, after a cut on Jan. 31.

Prices will continue to be set according to geographical region as they have been since 1985, Notimex said.

Export prices will be set according to formulas that link them to the most actively traded crudes on the world market. The averages for the three geographical regions, Europe, the Americas and the Far East, will be announced monthly, Pemex said.

Oil earnings account for about 70 per cent of Mexico's foreign exchange, badly needed to pay the country's foreign debt of $96.4 billion, second highest in the developing world.

Annual EC farm talks start today

BRUSSELS (R) — The spectre of angry European farmers will once again haunt the corridors of the European Community (EC) headquarters when agriculture ministers begin Monday the annual dialogue over farm prices.

Proposals for a general freeze in guaranteed support prices seem certain to attract heavy criticism from many of the 12 ministers, Community diplomats said.

But most of the hostility will be directed at an accompanying set of reform measures designed to reduce the food mountains spawned by the group's lavish Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and free cash resources for other sectors, the diplomats added.

Farm spending accounts for 72 per cent of the hard-pressed EC budget, and is set to rise again this year.

Provisional estimates put spending in the 1986-87 farm year at 21 billion European Currency Units (ECUs) ($18 billion), but last month EC Farm Commissioner Frans Andriessen called for at least an extra 750 million ECUs ($630 million) just to honour existing commitments beyond the summer.

With a spate of national and local elections on the horizon, diplomats said, national capitals will be more than ever reluctant to risk antagonising powerful domestic farming interests despite anxiety over runaway spending.

The scene is therefore set for one of the most difficult and lengthy negotiating sessions since the inception of the CAP over 20 years ago, they said.

Last year, West Germany demonstrated the strength of the domestic farm lobby when it used its veto for the first time since it joined the EC to block modest price cuts of 1.8 per cent in cereals.

Mr. Andriessen, emphasising the need for the speedy adoption of the reform measures, blamed the need for extra funding on the downward drift of the dollar over recent months.

Argentina, Uruguay blast U.S., EC trade policies

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina and Uruguay Saturday accused the United States and the European Community (EC) of jeopardising the stability of debt-burdened Latin America through unfair trade practices.

"While the foreign debt of developing countries grows as a result of outrageous interest rates, the value of their export produce falls to unprecedented levels," Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and his Uruguayan colleague, President Julio Sanguinetti said in a joint statement.

The statement, issued at the end of a one-day visit by President Sanguinetti, said trade policies of industrialised nations could have "dramatic consequences... for the stability of international relations."

Official sources say Argentina will lead discussion of a demand for below market interest rates for most of the region's $370 billion foreign debt when the Cartagena group of Latin debtors meets in Uruguay next Thursday and Friday.

Uruguay will host the gathering at the Atlantic resort of Punta Del Este as head of the 11-nation Cartagena group.

Saturday's meeting followed an earlier call by Mexican President Miguel De La Madrid for creditors to share the burden of relieving his country's nearly $100 billion debt problem.

Argentine Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille said last week Mexico and Brazil, the region's two largest debtors, supported proposals for lower interest rates.

Latin America's oil-exporting countries — Mexico, Venezuela and Ecuador — have been badly hit by falling oil prices that have slashed their export revenue and jeopardised their debt repayment abilities.

The joint presidential statement Saturday said dumping by the EC had caused a plunge of up to 40 per cent in export prices for grains and beef — the main sources of income for Argentina and Uruguay.

European and U.S. policies had also led to the loss for both countries of traditional export markets, it said.

Thousands of Turks protest inflation, labour restrictions

IZMIR, Turkey (AP) — Tens of thousands of workers from throughout Turkey on Saturday protested inflation, low wages and restrictions on union rights during the first outdoor labour rally permitted in Turkey since 1978.

Thousands of security forces were deployed around the square in this industrial city on the Aegean coast. As police helicopters flew overhead, police searched most of the people coming to the rally area.

Police estimated the number of protesters at 40,000 while Turk-Is, Turkey's largest labour union which organised the rally, put the number at 110,000.

Large outdoor gatherings of union members and sympathisers were banned by authorities in Turkey since 1977 when 35 people were killed in a stampede triggered by shootings at a May Day rally in Istanbul.

Oman slams on economic brakes as oil price crash slices earnings

MUSCAT (R) — In just a few weeks, Oman has rewritten its five-year economic plan, devalued its currency and cut government spending, with further austerity measures lying ahead.

Officials say the aim is to act quickly before the budget deficit gets out of hand after a crash in world oil prices wiped out 40 per cent of the country's income in two months.

Oil accounts for 80 per cent of government revenue, but Oman's 500,000 barrels per day of crude now sell at $15 each against $27 late last year.

The crash has brought a state of shock to this country of 1.5 million people at the mouth of the Gulf. "It's like being covered in cold water," said Mr. Sharif Lutfi, economic adviser to Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said.

"It's a unique case. Where else in history has a group of countries lost 40 per cent of its income in a few weeks?"

With a forecast shortfall approaching $500 million this year, foreign banks will be asked to provide at least half that amount in loans. The rest will come from reserves.

Economic planners expect Oman's economy to shrink in 1986 after five years when annual growth averaged 10 per cent or more.

He told Reuters health and education would suffer less than other sectors. But defence, which accounts for 40 per cent of annual government expenditure of $4.5 billion, will not escape untouched.

Sheikh Zawawi said Oman had asked Britain to delay delivery of eight Tornado planes, worth some $350 million, until about 1992. Delivery was scheduled for 1988.

Officials said cuts were also being considered in Oman's armed forces, where foreigners make up a large percentage of more than 20,000 officers and men.

The officials also expect an outflow of foreign workers, now comprising more than three-quarters of the private sector labour force of 250,000 to 300,000 — of which well over 40 per cent are employed in the construction industry.

Much infrastructure work was completed last year, in time for celebrations of the sultan's first 15 years of rule. But projects such as a new container port and sewerage contracts in the north and south of the country will probably be held up.

Oman's oil started to flow less than 20 years ago, and the country only emerged into the modern world after Sultan Qaboos replaced his father in a bloodless coup in 1970.

Oman has developed rapidly since then, but foreign reserves are below $3 billion, a small amount by Gulf standards.

Crucial to the 1986-1990 plan, in which total expenditure has been cut by 10 per cent to 8.83 billion rials ($23.2 billion), is an attempt to reduce dependence on oil.

Until last year Oman had been able to compensate oil price falls by increasing output but its ability to expand further is limited. Existing reserves will run out in 20 years at current production rates.

Government spending is to concentrate on rural areas in a bid to revive agriculture and fishing. Attempts will be made to develop medium-size industry and mineral resources like marble.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Oman's main employer, the government, no longer recruits.

"We are not going to recruit any more staff. This will apply to the public and private sector ... I envisage not only a freeze but I see a few contracts not being renewed," said deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, Sheikh Qais Ibn Abdul Muneim Al Zawawi.

Ramada Dubai auctioned

DUBAI, UAE (AP) — A five star hotel that cost 120 million dirhams ($32 million) went on auction in the first case of its kind in the Emirate of Dubai, it was reported here Sunday.

The newspaper Al Khaleej said that Dubai civil court ordered the auction for Ramada Dubai in repayment of a 166-million-dirham ($45 million) debt by the the owner.

The highest bid received in the auction which started last Thursday was 25 million dirhams ($6 million), according to court sources.

The 174-room luxury hotel opened in June 1982, belonged to Sheikh Saud Abbas, a brother in law of one of the Galadari brothers, the business tycoons of the emirate who are themselves facing court cases for unpaid multi-million dollar debts to several banks.

The hotel debt was originally to the Dubai Bank Ltd. owned by the brothers, and the mortgage was transferred to the Dubai government-controlled Union Bank of the Middle East when it took over the Galadari bank in April last year.

The ten-storey hotel stands on a 22,669 square-foot area. It is one of three Ramada hotels in the United Arab Emirates and one of the 12 five star hotels in the port city of Dubai.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, FEB. 24, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of today's Full Moon brings considerable activity in finding the right ways and means by which you can decide the policies under which you wish to operate in the future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Morning is the best time to gain a favor from an associate since later you have many projects to handle.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Begin the new week wisely and arrive on time for business appointments and later handle home affairs well.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Try to please associates in the morning, but later, one of them may be difficult to handle. Take everything in stride.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Money matters can work out well in the morning, whether they concern your own or those of others.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Begin the day in a dramatic way and later sit back and watch the results. Bring forth your finest talents.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get that plan working that you have arranged with the aid of an expert in the morning. Later, study the results.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Be with congenials in the morning. A good deal of care is needed while driving later in the day. Make your home life more charming.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Early focus your attention on family and important business matters. Don't handle financial affairs in the evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Advance your priorities in the morning, but later do not try to force your ideas on others. Tend to correspondence.

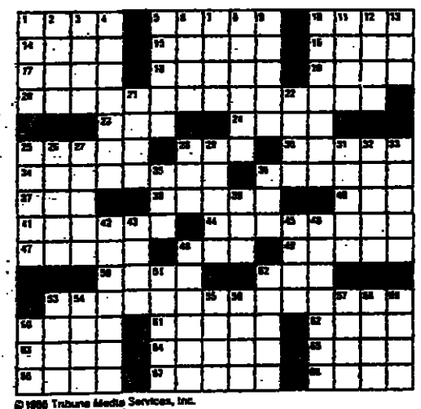
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get your property improved in some modern way and be less concerned with personal worries. Avoid losing your temper.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Begin the week properly by supporting bigwigs and later steer clear of someone you know who likes to be sarcastic.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Try to gain the favor of up-to-date and conservative acquaintances during the day, but stay at home tonight and feel secure.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be most extroverted early in life. School work will come easily and there is love of family and playmates. Upon reaching high school age, however, your progeny will become more serious and ambitious.

THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitten



ACROSS
1 Cease
5 Bog
10 In — (as a whole)
14 Dry river bed
15 Bryant or Ekberg
16 Jennings or Ludwig
17 Perfect service
18 Emphatic negative
19 Outer coat
20 Historical event, 1773
23 Stop — dime
24 Placate
25 View
28 "— Kapital"
30 Approaches
34 Oil tracts of a kind
36 Iran formerly
37 Saki
38 Bonac prel.
40 Peter —
41 Boston — (chair)
44 Not proper
47 The heavens
48 Grand —, Nova Scotia
49 Slow, musically
50 Ethnic group
52 Feel pain
53 Endurance contest
60 Conserve
61 Needlefish markers
62 "— Camera"
63 Playing card
64 Melodies
65 Hoofbeat sound
66 Corp. units
67 Interval
68 Blackthorn

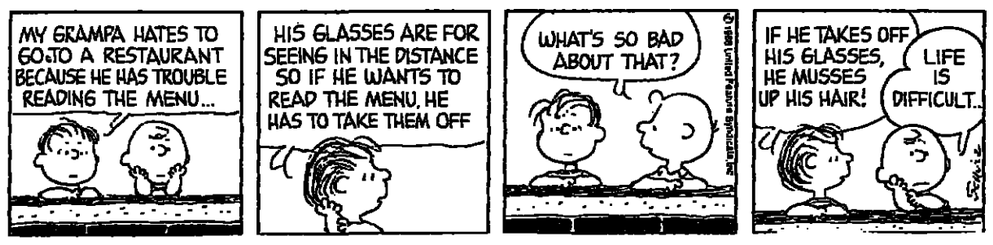
DOWN
1 Mop
2 Max. fare
3 Pindaric works
4 V-8 parts
5 Divine aid
6 Dill old style
7 Cleave
8 Pitches
9 Arthur Marx
10 Boston — (dog)
11 Leave out
12 Wee
13 Ancient
21 Draft status
22 Skin problem
25 Stop
26 Old Boston family name
27 — Maria Remarque
28 Medical degree: abbr.
29 Out of bed
31 Colo. spa
32 Cheerful
33 — Domingo
35 Neither's partner
36 Pea holder
39 Comp. pt.
42 Woolen cloths
43 Part of QED
45 Lamb pen name
46 Boston — (regent)
48 Confided
51 Expenses
52 Appear
53 Actress Theda
54 — again (once more)
55 Tropical bird
56 Guinness or — Waugh
57 Corridor
58 Melville novel
59 Back of the neck
60 Sault — Marie

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

A	R	A	L		S	A	F	E			A	P	S	E	
B	E	L	E		C	U	L	L			A	R	E	N	T
A	V	O	N		A	R	E	S			R	A	M	O	N
M	U	H	A	M	M	A	D	A	L	I	B	A	P	A	
S	E	A		A	P	E			E	L	A	L			
			A	N	I		S	P	A	S		S	A	P	
S	E	A	T	O		O	N	U	S		D	O	L	E	
A	L	B	E	R	T	G	O	R	E	Y	I	D	A	L	
W	I	S	E		U	L	U	S		A	V	E	R	T	
S	A	D		B	R	E	T		A	L	A				
		R	E	E	K			A	S	I		U	P	A	
B	A	B	E	R	U	T	H	S	T	D	E	N	I	S	
A	L	E	R	T		R	I	T	E		V	I	E	S	
F	I	N	I	S		O	D	E	R		E	T	T	A	
F	E	T	E			T	E	R	N		R	E	A	M	

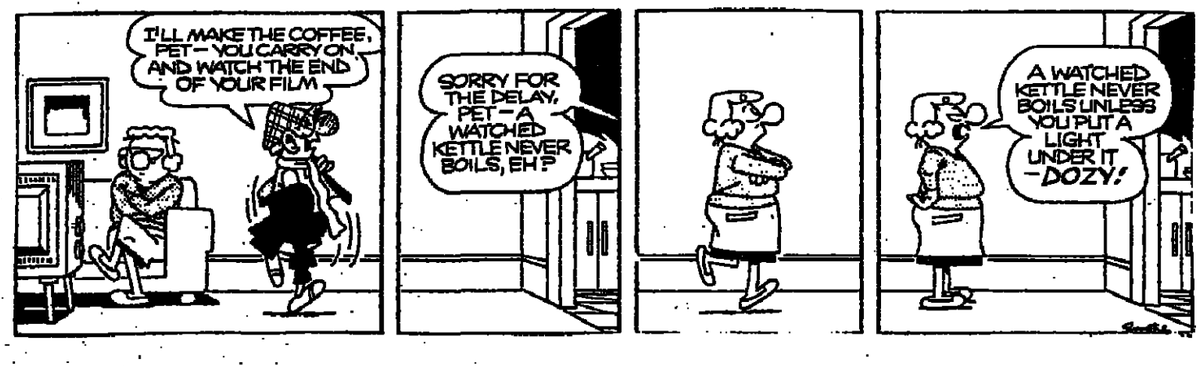
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF® By Harris



"Did your wife call me about a 200-pound rat named Stanley?"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NILEN

DAAHE

GAIMBY

VORCLE



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: "_____"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: AUDIT NEWLY RAVAGE TRICKY
Answer: Whom to call if you're planning to give a banquet for your cat—THE "CAT-ERER"

Protesters set fire to shops, offices in S. African town

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Blacks rampaged through a north eastern township during the night, setting fire to shops and offices until they were dispersed, police said Sunday.

One black was slightly injured and three were arrested, said a police summary of overnight racial unrest.

It said about 500 blacks in Nelspruit, 190 kilometres east of Johannesburg, damaged the homes of policemen and set fire to two restaurants, a doctor's consulting room, a liquor store, an Education Department office and three delivery vans.

In Pretoria, the capital, an explosion in a telephone booth badly damaged a post office building, a pharmacy and two shops, the report said.

A respected Johannesburg newspaper reported "a gradual but significant change" taking place in the South African cabinet's thinking on the causes of the country's racial turmoil.

The mass-circulation Sunday Times, an English-language paper, also said there was "serious and growing concern in government circles over the political attitudes of a large section of the white police force, including several very senior officers."

It did not elaborate. Apartheid critics say the police have been responsible for the majority of the more than 1,100 deaths in the 17 months of race unrest South Africa has experienced.

The paper cited a speech by Law and Order Minister Louis Le Grange last week which it said moved away from simple analysis of the troubles as a Communist conspiracy orchestrated by the banned African National Congress (ANC) and recognised that blacks have many genuine grievances.

The Sunday Times also noted that in the transcript of a conversation President P.W. Botha recently had with a white opposition politician, Mr. Botha agreed that the black radicals in the forefront of the struggle were more militant than the ANC leadership in Lusaka, Zambia.

It said Mr. Le Grange's proposed remedies — job creation, better housing and the recruitment of more policemen — were "necessary steps but hardly an answer to the growing momentum of revolutionary violence."

Meanwhile, former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser and former Nigerian military leader Olysegun Obasanjo visited the segregated beach in the southern coastal city of Port Elizabeth as heads of a Commonwealth committee investigating South African racial strife.

Anti-NATO campaign shows strength in Madrid rally

MADRID (R) — Thousands of Spanish pacifists, ecologists, trade unionists and Communist Party members who have won over many countrymen with the slogan "NATO no, (U.S.) bases out" converged on Madrid Sunday for the climax of a campaign to take their country out of the Atlantic alliance.

The activists are determined to make Sunday's rally the biggest held in their efforts to achieve Spain's withdrawal from the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in a national referendum set for March 12.

They got a big boost from the latest public opinion polls which put the anti-NATO vote at 34 per cent, nine points ahead of those who want to remain in the alliance.

With the ruling Socialists campaigning to retain membership and the pro-NATO right boycotting the referendum, the challenge mounted by the anti-NATO faction seems small by comparison.

A handful of organisers with a budget of about $200,000, provided mainly by the Communist Party, took on the powerful Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE), which is spending 20 times as much in its pro-NATO campaign.

"If the referendum were held now we would win it," Communist Party Spokesman Andreu Claret told Reuters. "We will win with the arguments the Socialists used against entry in 1982."

Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, who was elected in 1982 on an anti-NATO platform, changed Socialist policy once in power to favour retention of alliance membership.

Despite an intensive pro-NATO campaign and lengthy radio and television appearances, Mr. Gonzalez is having difficulties in persuading Socialist voters to follow his change of heart.

Poll shows widespread British suspicion of U.S.

LONDON (R) — Most British people believe that the United States is at least as great a threat to world peace as the Soviet Union, according to an opinion poll published Sunday.

The poll in the Sunday Times showed that 20 per cent of those questioned believed the United States to be a bigger threat to world peace and a further 34 per cent saw both superpowers as an equal threat.

The poll showed widespread suspicion of U.S. influence over the British economy and defence policy.

It was conducted at the height of the political row over plans by the government to sell parts of the state-owned British Leyland (BL) car company to the U.S. giant General Motors.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has accused critics of trying to stir up anti-American feelings by their criticism of the plan.

The poll showed 80 per cent of those questioned opposed the sale of BL to the United States even if it made the company more successful.

It revealed a lack of confidence in President Reagan, with only 34 per cent of those polled agreeing with the proposition that he had sound judgment.

U.S. flood victims head home after levee fixed

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Engineers plugged a 150-foot break in a Yuba River levee, allowing some of an estimated 20,000 people to begin returning to their homes.

The residents of Linda and Olivehurst were hurriedly evacuated Thursday evening, many to nearby Beale Air Force Base, when floodwaters broke through the levee, an earthen embankment, and flooded the two towns 160 kilometres north east of San Francisco.

Nancy Hardaker, spokeswoman at the state Office of Emergency Services, said authorities were allowing some people to return home but with warnings that their drinking water supplies were contaminated.

Anhauser-Bush and Miller Brewing switched from bottling beer to water on some production lines and pledged to deliver 300,000 bottles and cans of water to the flooded towns.

An estimated 50 square kilometres was flooded after the levee broke.

The Yuba River flood was the worst of several that inundated northern California towns following more than a week of record-breaking rainstorms. Weather was generally clear Saturday and rivers were receding.

But 32 kilometres south of Olivehurst, some 400 people were evacuated from the small town of Robbins on the Sacramento River after a levee began to sag. The army corps of engineers was trying to prevent that levee from giving way.

Reagan sends arms proposal to Soviets

NEW YORK (R) — President Reagan has sent a proposal to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev seeking the elimination of U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe and Asia within three years, the New York Times said Sunday.

The newspaper quoted administration officials as saying Mr. Reagan's comprehensive letter to Mr. Gorbachev Saturday was intended largely as a response to an arms plan made by the Soviet leader last month that proposed scrapping all nuclear weapons by the year 2000.

Administration sources in Washington confirmed that a letter had been sent to Mr. Gorbachev following consultations between Washington and Western allies. The White House, however, would issue no official statement until Kremlin leaders had studied the letter and commented on it, they said.

Mr. Reagan indicated in the letter that Mr. Gorbachev's proposal was a "good idea" but that the two superpowers needed to reduce nuclear weaponry one step at a time, the paper said.

The elimination of the intermediate-range forces, or INF, would serve as a first step in cutting by 50 per cent all Soviet and American strategic forces, as agreed upon by the two leaders at their summit meeting in Geneva last November, the paper quoted the officials as saying.

Several options would be offered to the Soviet Union to eliminate the intermediate range forces, which include Soviet SS-20 missiles and American Pershing 2 ballistic and ground-launched cruise missiles, it said.

Drug scandal rocks Zambia

LUSAKA, Zambia (AP) — Momin Abdulla of Bombay might have got rich quickly with the 25,000 Mandrax tablets he was carrying in the false bottom of his suitcase.

Instead, he was sentenced to five years in jail for his role in a drug smuggling operation in which prominent Zambians have been implicated. It has been widely described the worst scandal since independence from Britain in 1964.

The Aspirin-size Mandrax tablet, which can be bought for a few cents from street peddlers in Bombay but will fetch $10 in South Africa, has reaped handsome profits for smugglers in Europe and Africa.

Calling Lusaka the hub of the racket, Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda has ordered detention of at least 30 Zambians over the past year for alleged involvement.

Those detained include two former cabinet ministers, a tribal princess and some of the nation's leading businessmen.

Mandrax, a sleeping pill, contains addictive methaqualone, which induces a high similar to heroin when taken with alcohol. Derived from the Mandrake plant of the poisonous nightshade family, Mandrax was prescribed by some doctors in the 1960s for hypnotic therapy. But it has been banned in most Western countries as addictive and dangerous.

The drug was outlawed in South Africa in 1978 after widespread abuse. But over the past couple of years, as the majority blacks have stepped up their agitation for control of the country, Mandrax has become popular among wealthy whites.

"People exposed to the drug have a relaxed feeling, and gradually they need more of it to achieve the previous state of relaxation," said Dr. Fedelis Chikara, a consultant psychiatrist at Harare Hospital in Zimbabwe.

Abdulla, an unemployed Indian national, was a minor cog in the machinery. He was arrested in Harare, capital of neighbouring Zimbabwe, during a journey from Bombay via Nairobi, Kenya, and Harare to Johannesburg.

Because he pleaded guilty, only the barest facts of Abdulla's case were read in court before he was convicted and sentenced on Feb. 11. But police investigators said privately that he was in league with the Zambian drug ring which arranged the Mandrax pickup in Bombay and paid his air fare.

Filipinos stop Marcos tanks with bare hands

MANILA (R) — Troops loyal to President Ferdinand Marcos moving against a rebel-held base Sunday were halted by thousands of supporters of opposition leader Corazon Aquino who tried to push tanks back with their bare hands.

Two tanks and an armoured car reached a point about two kilometres north east of Camp Crame but could move no further. Ten truckloads of marines were similarly stranded in the throng and looked on helplessly.

Seven buses and sandbags also blocked a busy intersection.

Camp Crame, Philippine National Police Headquarters, was seized Saturday by troops backing Lt.-Gen. Fidel Ramos, deputy chief of armed forces, who defected to the opposition with Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, a longtime ally of Mr. Marcos.

Both vowed to fight to the death to bring down the 20-year-old government of Mr. Marcos. Tens of thousands of Aquino supporters blocked a major street which the tanks had to pass to reach the headquarters.

The tanks and marines later retreated under a barrage of jeers to a field and the protection of a 1.3 metre high wall.

The full battalion of 800 to 1,000 marines backed by eight tanks and three armoured cars, awaited further orders, hemmed in by hordes of Aquino supporters heckling them, saying prayers, or trying to scramble over the wall.

Little girls moved among troops, trying to give them flowers. Marines in the centre of the field lounged casually on the grass but those at the perimeter clutched rifles nervously.

Marine Commander A.A. Tadiar said he was acting on orders from an intermediary and not Mr. Marcos or Armed Forces Chief Fabian Ver.

Asked what action he might take he declined comment but told reporters there was no deadline.

At Crame, followers of Mrs. Aquino, who has accused Mr. Marcos of stealing victory from her in this month's election, chanted her nickname "Cory" and linked hands to form a human barricade.

Tadiar said earlier he had orders to capture Camp Aguinaldo, the Defence Ministry headquarters across the street from Crame, and gave the people 30 minutes to clear the area.

Mr. Enrile, who seized Aguinaldo Saturday, abandoned the camp with his supporters Sunday and moved into Crame, which Gen. Ramos said was easier to defend.

The crowds responded by forming a human chain and squatting on the road to block the path of the tanks.

Helicopters belonging to Marcos loyalists hovered low over Crame, apparently on reconnaissance.

The thousands of people in the street sang Onward Christian Soldiers and pinned roses and other flowers to the gun barrels of rebels as they marched from Aguinaldo to Crame.

Nuns prayed as riot police gathering four kilometres away on the other side of the road were also blocked off from the camp.

Afghan rebel leader killed

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (R) — An Afghan rebel commander and another fighter were killed and two guerrillas were wounded when their car was ambushed near the Pakistani border town of Peshawar, guerrilla party officials said Sunday.

They said Commander Abdul Fatah and a companion identified only as Allauddin, both members of the Hezb-E-Islami Party of Gulbodin Hekmatyar, were shot dead Saturday near the village of Badaber south of Peshawar.

Two other men in the car were wounded by gunmen firing Soviet Kalashnikov rifles who then escaped, the officials said.

They said they believed the ambush was staged by Afghan government agents infiltrated into Pakistan, which has sheltered an estimated three million refugees who fled Afghanistan after the 1979 Soviet military intervention.

Most of the guerrilla groups fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government are also based in Peshawar.

Americans advised not to go to Manila

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. State Department has told Americans to avoid travelling to the Philippines because of tension caused by a revolt by two top military officials.

"Due to unsettled conditions in Manila, Americans are advised to postpone non-essential travel to the Philippines," a statement said.

"Should travel be essential, travellers should contact the American embassy immediately upon arrival in Manila," it added.

The warning was issued as thousands of people gathered around the Defence Ministry in Manila, taken over earlier Saturday by Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Deputy Armed Forces Chief Fidel Ramos.

The two officials accused President Ferdinand Marcos of stealing the Feb. 7 election from opposition challenger Corazon Aquino and threw their support behind her.

In Tokyo, the Japanese Foreign Ministry also told people not to travel to the Philippines, but spokesman Yoshio Hatano declined to make any comment on the situation saying it was still unclear.

Japan last week postponed the signing of an agreement with the Philippines on a 33 billion yen ($183 million) loan for 11 development projects and a 16.5 million yen ($92 million) commodity loan following the Philippine elections.

Two-thirds vote in Palau plebiscite

KOROR, Palau (R) — Only two thirds of voters in this strategic Western Pacific territory voted in a plebiscite to decide whether to become semi-independent after 39 years of U.S. rule.

Early counting of the Feb. 21 plebiscite showed that, like two polls in 1983 and 1984, this one could fail to get the 75 per cent support needed to override anti-nuclear clauses in the Palau constitution, observors said.

With about 44 per cent of the vote counted, 64.68 per cent favoured a compact of free association with the United States, which would give the United States trust territory independence in all matters except defence, they said.

Only two thirds of the 9,858 registered voters voted in the U.N. supervised referendum, on the island group 800 kilometres east of the Philippines.

U.S. officials have argued the compact can go ahead on a simple majority since the United States has answered some of the concerns of the anti-nuclear constitution by agreeing not to test, store or dispose of nuclear weapons in Palau.

The U.S. policy of neither confirming or denying the presence of nuclear weapons on its ships was protected in a renegotiation of the compact following the assassination last year of Palauan President Harup Remelik.

Under the compact, the United States would spend $3 billion in aid on the 14,000 population archipelago, and be responsible for its security for 50 years.

Two neighbouring states, the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Mircronesia, have endorsed similar agreements with the United States.

The compact still has to pass the U.S. Congress, President Reagan and the United Nations Security Council. The Soviet Union has indicated it could veto the pact which it has condemned as a U.S. attempt to gain a military stronghold on the islands.

Palau's opposition party has also said it could take court action to prevent the compact going ahead without the 75 per cent majority.

Ershad blamed for Martyr's Day riot

DHAKA (R) — Bangladeshi opposition leaders Sunday accused military ruler Hussein Mohammad Ershad of engineering a riot in Dhaka on Friday in which one person was killed and 40 wounded.

Supporters of a 15-party alliance and those of a seven-party alliance tried to hang portraits of their respective leaders, assassinated Presidents Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Ziaur Rahman on a monument to national heroes.

Fighting erupted during the Martyr's Day ceremony between groups using guns, knives and petrol bombs. One man died of shot wounds Saturday. At least 40 were wounded.

The alliances accused President Ershad of engineering the riot to break up anti-government unity.

"The killing of that man and the attacks on the political supporters at the monument were all preplanned," Sheikh Hasina Wajed, leader of the 15-party alliance, said in a statement.

"The idea is very subtle and cunning — to create a rift in the opposition unity against the perpetuation of military rule," she said.

Begum Khaleda Zia, leader of the seven-party alliance, said the death of the man would consolidate opposition unity.

"The blood-letting at the monument will turn our grief into a crusade against the military rulers," Mrs. Zia said in a separate statement.

The Bangladesh News Agency BSS said Gen. Ershad denounced the incident as an insult to the nation and on Saturday night held urgent talks with his top generals.

Education Minister Mohammad Abdul Matin said the opposition supporters had debased the monument, built in memory of four students shot dead by police in 1952 during a demonstration to demand that Bangla be made the state language of what was then East Pakistan.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

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A DEFENDER WITH NO HEART

East-West vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ J 10 9 2
♡ A 10 4 3 2
◇ 6 5
♣ A Q

WEST	EAST
♠ 5 3	♠ Q 7
♡ Q	♡ K J 8 7 6
◇ A J 8 4 3	◇ Q 9 7
♣ K J 10 7 4	♣ 9 8 2

SOUTH
♠ A K 8 6 4
♡ 9 5
◇ K 10 2
♣ 6 5 3

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♡	Pass	1 ♠	2 NT
3 ♣	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: Queen of ♡.

We have on many occasions expressed our dislike for the Unusual No Trump convention. We feel it should be used only in those cases where you think you can buy the contract or where you are reasonably sure that a profitable sacrifice is available. This hand from the recent International Team Trials bears out our contention.

At this vulnerability, it is highly doubtful that East-West would want to sacrifice, and West certainly has no reason to think that he can buy the contract at the three-level or higher. Nevertheless, West elected to overcall two no trump, thereby drawing a blueprint of his hand for declarer.

South won the opening heart lead in dummy, led the jack of spades to his king, then crossed back to the table with a successful club finesse. He led the ten of spades to pick up both outstanding trumps, conceded two diamond tricks and claimed his contract.

In the other room West prudently kept silent, and here, too, the final contract was four spades. West chose to lead his fourth-best club and the board's queen won. Declarer was afraid that he might have to lose a trump as well as a heart and two diamonds, so he thought that, as a back-up line, he should try to set up dummy's hearts for possible discards. Since there was nothing about the hand to warn him of the treacherous distribution, he elected to lead a low heart from dummy at trick two.

East rose with the king of hearts, and his partner's queen left him in no doubt about how to continue. He gave his partner a heart ruff, and the defenders sat back and waited for two diamond tricks to complete a one-trick set.

Communist Party gathers to chart policy at Moscow congress

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Communist Party formally opens a new chapter in its history this week at a national congress that will set goals for the next 15 years and reshape its governing body under Mikhail Gorbachev.

More than 5,000 delegates from the ruling party's elite, holding what is regarded as the most significant congress since 1961, will give their formal blessing to Mr. Gorbachev's plans for transforming Soviet society and join in condemning past errors.

In an opening speech on Tuesday expected to last over four hours, Mr. Gorbachev is to review the state of the nation and give an outline of his future policy at home and abroad.

Leaders of Soviet allies and officials from many Communist and Socialist parties are to attend the 10-day congress, which is held every five years. Mr. Gorbachev is widely expected to appeal to them to join in a new "peace" coalition to work for a total ban on nuclear weapons.

The 27th congress meets after 11 months in which the new leadership has sought to dismantle the legacy of the Leonid Brezhnev era and launch "a new stage in Soviet history."

Its main target has been the party itself, which directs every aspect of Soviet life. Hundreds of old, incompetent and corrupt officials have lost their jobs in a shake-up that has sent shock waves throughout the 18.4-million-membership.

Party sources expect Mr. Gorbachev to blame Mr. Brezhnev, who died in 1982, for the stagnation in Soviet economic and political life that marked his 18 years in office.

Mr. Gorbachev gave a taste of this in a press interview this month, saying the past administration had been marked by inertia, incompetence and irresponsibility.

Leading up to the congress, the state-run media have campaigned against abuses of power and this month Pravda reported criticism of the privileges enjoyed by the elite.

The last congress was marked by glowing tributes to Mr. Brezhnev and general satisfaction with the state of the nation. It ended with a few new Central Committee members and no changes to the ruling politburo.

Since then, two leaders — the reformist Yuri An[illegible] Brezhnev's aide [illegible] — have died in office.

Many of the surviving top office-holders from the Brezhnev period are expected to lose thier seats on the committee when it is re-elected at the close of the congress around March 4.

The body, which numbered 319 at its last formation, decides policy in the five years between congresses.

Its members are drawn from the top reaches of the party apparatus and government, military and academic life. A strong Soviet leader needs majority support within the body.

Mr. Gorbachev and his lieutenant Yegor Ligachev have carried through a shake-up among the provincial party bosses first launched by Mr. Brezhnev's successor Mr. Andropov. The regional chiefs occupy a third of the committee seats.

Western diplomats expect a turnover of at least 50 per cent in the committee compared with the 1981 body, many of whose members have died or already retired.

They will be watching the fortunes of prominent figures like Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, who was replaced as armed forces chief [illegible] would be a strong sign that he could rise again.

The committee appoints a new politburo at the end of the congress, but diplomats do not expect major changes in the 11-man body, which is already dominated by Mr. Gorbachev allies.

Some elderly figures, like non-voting member Boris Ponomaryov, 81, are expected to stand down and be replaced by younger men.

A main task of the congress will be to endorse a new party programme, replacing one drawn up under Nikita Khrushchev in 1961, and to approve guidelines for the next five-year economic plan and a blueprint for development to the end of the century.

Both documents, expected to be slightly modified from drafts issued last year, reflect the pragmatic and realistic approach of the Gorbachev administration.

The plan, which will be launched with a speech from Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov at the end of the week, aims for an average economic growth of 4.7 per cent over the next 15 years.

Diplomats are hoping Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Ryzhkov will reveal whether any major reforms are being contemplated.

So far, Mr. Gorbachev has based his effort to modernise the economy on tighter discipline, better managers, cutting back bureaucracy and strengthened control from Moscow.

Some foreign experts are suggesting that the new leaders could adopt a more daring approach once the congress rejuvenates the Central Committee and its apparatus.

The modest predictions of the new party programme contrast strongly with the Khrushchev version, which pledged a Communist millenium in utopian langage.

On the eve of Mr. Gorbachev's first congress as leader, many in Moscow are recalling the first one under Mr. Khrushchev, held 30 years ago this month.

Mr. Khrushchev denounced the crimes of the dictator Josef Stalin at that gathering, the 20th congress, sending shock waves through the country and the world Communist movement.

Since then, Mr. Khrushchev has been discredited and the speech is rarely mentioned. Mr. Gorbachev echoed the current thinking in the Kremlin in his latest interview when he said "Stalinism is a concept made up by opponents of Communism."

COLUMN 10

Gunman surrenders after hospital siege

LYONS, France (R) — A gunman holed up in a maternity ward for 12 hours after shooting his way into a public hospital surrendered Sunday after releasing a woman and her five-day-old baby, police said. They said 39-year-old Algerian Haba Lawadi gave himself up after holding the mother, her new-born child and a nurse hostage. The nurse was still with him when he surrendered. Lawadi, who had demanded to see President Francois Mitterrand and wanted permission to stay in Frace, had shot and wounded a hospital security man who tried to intervene when the gunman stormed into the maternity ward with a pistol Saturday night. Earlier, Lawadi's lawyer, Francois La Phung, told reporters his client had a police record for pimping and had served a 10-month prison sentence.

3 Japanese children commit suicide after being bullied

TOKYO (R) — A 13-year-old girl who said she was stripped and beaten at school died in hospital Sunday after hanging herself in her bedroom, police said. In the western city of Osaka, a 12-year-old primary school boy jumped from the roof of an eight-storey building in an apparent attempt to break away from a gang of classroom bullies, police said. A suicide note left by the boy read: "This is the only way to make myself comfortable. I cannot stand it any more."

Prison warder critical after falling in porridge

DURBAN, South Africa (R) — A South African prison warder was in critical condition in hospital after falling into a cauldron of boiling corn porridge, the prisons service said. Sibusiso Mkhize, aged 30, fell into the cauldron in a prison kitchen. "The top half of his body was submerged," a prisons spokesman said. "No foul play is suspected."

Man claims committing over 600 burglaries

HOUSTON (AP) — An 18-year-old man claims he committed more than 600 burglaries in the Houston area during the past two years, a police sergeant said. Marc Anthony Parmer of Houston was being held without bond Saturday on a single burglary charge. "He confessed to the case we have him charged on," Sgt. F.W. Harmon of the police Burglary and Theft Division said Friday. "He has no reason to brag about more because he has nothing to gain." Parmer, who had been on probation for burglary, told police he could easily point out 25 homes he recently broke into, Harmon said. He was arrested without incident Thursday after police received a tip, Harmon said. Harmon said Parmer had been sought by police since a witness allegedly spotted his licence plate number at the scene of a burglary Jan. 2.

Teen killing linked to satanic worship

MONROE, Michigan (R) — The recent shotgun slaying of a teenager, allegedly by his younger brother, may have stemmed from satanic worship, a police investigator has said. The investigator, Michael Davison, said the Feb. 2 shooting of 17-year old Lloyd Gamble appeared to be the "acting out of a satanic sacrifice." He said authorities had uncovered devil-worshipping groups at three high schools in this community south of Detroit, but he said the killing, allegedly by Gamble's 15-year old brother, was not believed to group cult activity. He said police probing the killing had seized objects used in satanic rites. Displayed to reporters at a news conference here were inverted-cross medallions, books on satanic ritual, a dagger, a black hooded robe, a black candle and tape recordings of "heavy metal" rock music. The date of the slaying was significant because Feb. 2 is celebrated by satanists as a "witches' sabbath," Davison said. Catholics mark the day as the feast of Candlemas. Davison said the accused slayer, whose name was not released, was being held by juvenile authorities. He said authorities would seek to prosecute him as an adult on charges of premeditated murder.